

FREE

Kent on Sunday

www.kentnews.co.uk October 27, 2013

North & West edition No 579

FOCUS »

Trees or trunk roads?

The battle to protect ancient woodland in the path of development

SPORT »

Coach party

Why Peter Taylor is so delighted to be back managing at Gillingham

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Town and country: how do you see your county changing?

NOT all of Kent's seaside towns are struggling; indeed, some are, by and large, thriving. However, those that are on their uppers contain within their walls some of the most insidious poverty in the country.

The reasons for their troubles are varied and not always given the oxygen of publicity they might be. However, what's done is done and the job now is to haul them by their bootstraps out of decades of decline.

As such, it's difficult to see how anyone could question the merit of the arts-led regeneration that is gradually making an impression on two towns that have experienced the full force of seaside decline.

Nevertheless, one academic has indeed suggested that an influx of 'arty types' and their associated cafés, boutiques and galleries is not serving the locals while at the same time it is softening 'the edge' that is part of their appeal to many.

The best way for you to form an opinion is to visit the resorts and see them for yourselves, but in the meantime you can arm yourself with

our in-depth analysis of the continuing debate about our seaside towns.

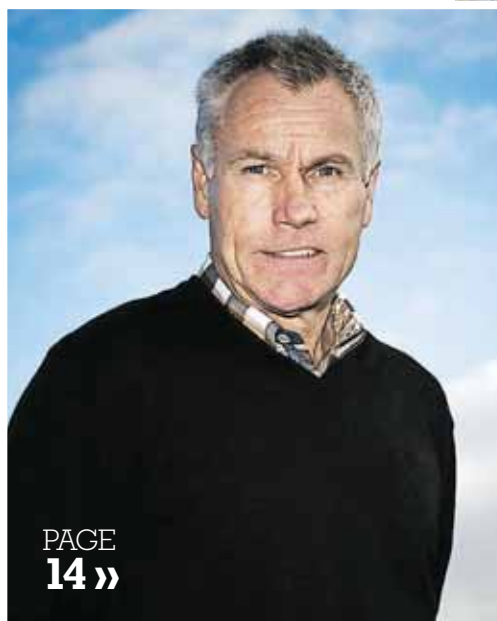
Quality of life, of course, covers the natural environment as well as the built, and our other main feature looks at the future of the county's ancient woodland.

Despite its ever-increasing urbanisation, Kent retains a substantial volume of this priceless habitat. It's a volume, though, that is under almost constant attack through development schemes.

We focus on two sites at the cutting edge of the conflict, so again you can decide for yourselves whether you think our ancient woodland is precious enough to keep the bulldozers at bay or whether society is bettered by their making way for the developers.

Away from such contentious matters, the return of coach Peter Taylor to Gillingham FC has been broadly welcomed. We talk to him at length about his hopes for the club.

Finally, did you remember to put your clocks back by an hour at midnight last night?



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Published in Kent and printed by Archant Print, division of Archant Community Media Limited (Co Reg No 19300). Registered Office: Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE

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Thousands campaign to save popular attraction

By Joe Bil

joe.bill@archant.co.uk

THOUSANDS of people have come out in support of a popular attraction that is being forced to close its doors for good next month.

Family-run Farming World near Faversham was served notice to leave the Chalky Lane site by December this year.

The attraction was started in 1990 by John and Maggee Johnson and began life at Homestall Farm before moving to its current location in 1994 to expand.

It is understood that the land on which Farming World operates was sold in 2011 alongside the Grade II-listed building Nash Court in Boughton.

Now managed by the founder's daughter Georgina Watson, Farming World has been told it must vacate the land, sparking speculation that it could be used for development. The animals will be found new homes.

Mrs Watson said: "Obviously we are very saddened. We would like to thank all the people who have visited us over the years and have supported us. We will take many happy memories away.



FARMING WORLD: The popular attraction lets families get up close with animals and learn about farming

"It's a great shame that families won't have a place to visit that is affordable, local and provides a fun and educational day out."

Farming World offers an educational experience of an open farm so that youngsters and families can get up close with animals and learn about the day-to-day life on a working rural business.

The news that the attraction is set to close was met with public outcry and supporters launched a petition to keep it open.

Mrs Watson said: "We are very touched that everyone's supporting us. It is great to know that Farming World has been such a valuable part of the community.

"We don't know what will happen in the future and at present

our priority is to move off site."

Supporters took to the change.org petition site to vent their anger at the news.

Reece Brett, a farmer from nearby Dunkirk, said: "As a farmer myself, we do not want farming to become a dying trade.

"Without places like this, how do the new generation of children get involved?"

New 'tutor-proof' Kent Test could spell end of exam coaching culture

THOUSANDS of Year 6 pupils will sit a new Kent Test next year in a shake-up aimed at making the exam less 'coachable'.

The county council has awarded a new contract to the current Kent Test provider, GL Assessment, but changes have been made to ensure a more streamlined exam with less burden on schools and their pupils.

There will be two main tests, one assessing reasoning ability and one assessing pupils' attainment in literacy and numeracy.

The exercises will be varied, making it harder for children to be coached for the exam, a problem frequently seen where families pay private tutors to coach their children in the battle to secure a place at a grammar school.

The test will be done in a multiple-choice format – including literacy – and all assignments will be carried out in one day.

All pupils will complete a writing task under test conditions during test day. This will not be marked but used

for head-teachers in borderline cases.

Roger Gough, cabinet member for education, said: "We are pleased to be working with GL Assessment, which has a proven track record of helping the council deliver assessment decisions within a tight time-frame.

"We are also excited about the potential for flexible development offered by the new process, which will give us a wide range of assessment information without requiring children to spend longer in exams."

Discussions with GL Assessment are due to start on the finer details.

Education chiefs at County Hall say parents whose children expect to take the test in September 2014 will be able to find out more information about the new exam in May.

Information will be posted on the council's website www.kent.gov.uk in time to allow parents to consider whether or not to register their children for the tests by the June deadline.

Women's prison set to close in shake-up by Government

A WOMEN'S prison near Maidstone is set to close as part of an overhaul by the Ministry of Justice.

It is not yet known what will happen to prison staff – whether they will lose their jobs or be relocated to other prisons.

The MoJ has said it will ensure there are enough female prison places by refurbishing and expanding HMP Eastwood Park

in Gloucestershire, HMP Foston Hall in Derby and Drake Hall in Staffordshire.

East Sutton Park, in Sutton Valence, is Grade II-listed and houses 92 prisoners.

One of its most recent inmates was the ex-wife of former cabinet minister Chris Huhne. Vicky Pryce was jailed for perverting the course of justice by swapping speeding points.

Rapist jailed for 'horrific' sex crimes on young victims

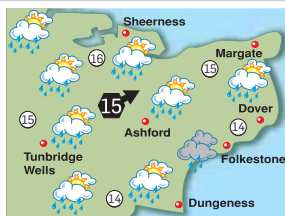
A RAPIST from Sheerness has been jailed for 16 years for sickening sex attacks on two children over eight years.

Alan Jackson, formerly of Clyde Street, was found guilty by a jury at Maidstone Crown Court of a string of sexual offences against children between 1973 and 1981: three counts of indecent assault, six counts of indecency with a child and two

counts of rape. The offences were committed against two victims when they were aged between six and 13.

On sentencing, His Honour St John-Stevens described the offending as "horrific".

He said Jackson was manipulative and intimidating and had shown no remorse for robbing the victims of their childhood.



TODAY: Cloudy with sunny spells and scattered showers. Max temp 13-16C (55-61F). **TONIGHT:** Rather cloudy with rain. Min temp 10-13C (50-55F).

TODAY'S HIGH TIDE (Metres)

Dover	03.58	5.4	16.36	5.1
Margate	04.45	4.0	17.21	3.9
St Mary's	09.49	4.3	22.37	4.1

WEEK AHEAD

Monday	Max 15C	Min 6C
Tuesday	Max 13C	Min 4C
Wednesday	Max 14C	Min 8C
Thursday	Max 14C	Min 8C
Friday	Max 14C	Min 8C
Saturday	Max 13C	Min 8C
Information supplied by	MeteoGroup	

Olympian vows not to fall at the first hurdle

DOUBLE Olympic gold-medallist Dame Kelly Holmes isn't used to losing, so news that her bid to open a café in her old village has been deferred has not gone down well.

The runner has put in a planning application to redevelop a former newsagent's shop in Tonbridge Road, Hildenborough, where she grew up.

But during a meeting this week councillors from

Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council chose to delay the decision. The application had been recommended for approval subject to conditions despite objections from several residents.

Dame Kelly took to social-networking site Twitter saying: "Deferred – so slight delay but it WILL happen."

Objections were made about the location, the lack of parking, opening hours and whether there was a need.



THEFT: Some 150 birds were stolen

Four held over murder of student who had come to Kent to learn English

By Joe Bill

joe.bill@archant.co.uk

FOUR Lithuanian men were on Thursday remanded in custody after appearing in court accused of the murder of an Italian teenager in Maidstone.

A huge police investigation was launched on Sunday night after the death of Joelle Leotta, who suffered fatal injuries outside a flat in Lower Stone Street.

The 19-year-old was taken to King's College Hospital in London, where he later died.

Mr Leotta, who is believed to have come to Kent only 10 days before his death to learn English, had been working as a waiter in the Vesuvius Italian restaurant in Lower Stone Street.

On Sunday night at 11.20pm police were called to reports of an assault in the area and Mr Leotta was transferred to hospital, having sustained life-threatening injuries.

Police have arrested 10 people in



VICTIM: Joelle Leotta had been in the country for less than two weeks

total as part of their investigations.

Aleksandras Zuravliovas, 26, of Beaumont Road, Maidstone; Tomas Gelezinis, 30, of Lower Stone Street, Maidstone; Saulius Tamoliunas, 23, of Union Street, Maidstone; and Li-

nas Zidonis, 21, of no fixed abode, have all been charged murder.

They appeared via video link at Medway Magistrates' Court charged with murder on Thursday.

They have also all been charged with grievous bodily harm in connection with an assault on a second victim. They have all been remanded in custody.

The victim's family were informed and travelled to Kent to formally identify his body.

There has been an outcry in Italy, according to a number of Italian news sources, and friends and family of the teenager have started a tribute page on social-networking site Facebook in his honour.

His father Ivan was quoted in an Italian newspaper describing his son as not somebody who would go looking for trouble.

He said the family were shocked and were seeking answers.

"All I know is that my son is dead. I don't know anything of the motive." He added: "He was so happy to be in England."

Robbers locked up for family hostage ordeal

THREE robbers have been jailed for a terrifying raid on a house in which they held a child and his parents hostage in what was a case of mistaken identity.

So shocking was the robbery in Faversham that Judge Jeremy Carey described it as "every family's worst nightmare" as he sentenced the offenders at Maidstone Crown Court.

Nigel Jarman, 59, of The Square, Birchington, was jailed for four-and-a-half years. His co-defendants, Darren Edwards, 38, of Stratford, London, and Raymond Wallace, 40, of Old School Gardens, Margate, were jailed for four years and four months and five years, respectively.

The three men raided the address in Lion Field on Wednesday, May 29, demanding money and cash and dragging the eight-year-old boy back into the living room after he tried to escape.

The trio only left when the family found a tenancy agreement showing they had only moved in two weeks before.

Axe-wielding masked men rob betting shop

DETECTIVES are hunting two masked men who robbed a betting shop in Hythe armed with an axe.

The men entered Cinque Port Racing shop just before 6pm on Monday, October 21, and threatened the 69-year-old owner of the business with a small weapon.

They demanded money, and cash was handed over to the offenders, who were dressed in full-length white-paper-style suits and had masks over their faces.

As the offenders went to leave the shop, the owner tried to stop one of the robbers, but he was unable to and received minor injuries in the struggle.

It is understood the two men left the high street through an alleyway beside a kebab shop.

Anyone with information is asked to phone Detective Constable Jacqui Mennie at Kent Police on 01303 289406, giving reference ZY/31818/13 or Kent Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Lorry-driver pleads guilty to death crash

A LORRY-driver has admitted causing death by careless driving following the death of a motorist whose car had broken down on the A2 at Patricbourne, near Canterbury.

Paul Luckhurst appeared at Canterbury Crown Court this week and admitted the offence, which happened when the Scania tipper-lorry he was driving hit the car of a man who had broken down.

Luckhurst, 41, of Highland Road, Chartham, had been driving on the London-bound carriageway on Wednesday, April 17.

At about 3.15pm his vehicle crashed into the back of an MGB BT sports car that had broken down and was partially blocking the first lane.

The car belonged to 44-year-old Whitfield man Keith Hall, who at the time of the crash was outside the car inspecting its engine bay.

Mr Hall was declared dead at the scene.

Luckhurst will be sentenced at Canterbury Crown Court on Friday, November 22.

agenda

What will make next week's headlines...

University staff due to walk out in pay dispute

STAFF at the county's universities are set to stage a walk-out on Thursday in what will be the first UK-wide joint strike between higher-education unions.

Members of the University and College Union (UCU), Unison and Unite will strike in the row over what they believe is an unfair pay increase.

They claim the rise of just 1 per cent amounts to a pay cut of 13 per cent in real terms since October 2008.

Staff also argue that university heads, such as vice-chancellors, are seeing pay and benefits increased – on average, they say, by more than £5,000 in 2011/12.

Michael MacNeil, UCU head of



higher education, said: "Staff have suffered year-on-year cuts in the value of their pay. Quite simply, enough is enough."

Unite said its members had had enough of "poverty pay increases"

Police to step up patrols as Halloween descends

KENT Police's seasonal campaign Stay Safe this Autumn will be stepped up this week as Halloween descends.

Officers will be patrolling the streets to target any troublemakers on Thursday.

The force is also reminding residents that they can display a trick-or-treat flyer to deter people knocking on their door.

Kent Police said: "Most of the calls we received around Halloween last year were reporting people throwing eggs

"We also received reports of alcohol-related nuisance." Parents are being told to make sure children don't go out with flour and eggs.

To download a flyer, see <http://bit.ly/1ePbOLS>

...also

School places deadline

IT'S the final push in the race to secure a secondary school place for Year 6 pupils, with deadline for applications on Thursday.

Parents are being reminded to get the application in for a 2014 placement, with the opportunity of naming four schools.

Go to <http://bit.ly/1fZuRq7>

Severe weather arrives

KENT looks set to be battered by strong winds in the early part of the week.

The Met Office released a severe weather warning predicting Monday would be the start of an "exceptionally windy spell" that could damage buildings and bring down trees.

Talks over housing plan

A SERIES of meetings about new council housing in Medway is beginning on Monday.

It is the first time Medway Council has built council housing in more than a decade.

Visit <http://bit.ly/1hf05Z7> for details.

Search on for top cop

THE search begins to find a new leading officer to take on the position of Chief Constable of Kent Police.

Earlier this month, Chief Constable Ian Learmonth announced his plan to retire in January. The deadline for applications is Monday, November 18.



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High-end kitchen, bedroom and bathroom furniture manufacturer introduces new range of kitchens aimed at the mid-market customer

By Daniel Reynolds

JUST walking into the Ream showroom at Gillingham Business Park you can instantly see why the company has been the preferred choice of luxury kitchens, bedrooms and bathrooms for the past 34 years – the displays are simply stunning!

Whilst many companies are struggling to make ends meet in the current financial climate, Ream are still expanding and with recent investment into new state-of-the-art machinery at their manufacturing facility, Ream are now able to offer a new range of kitchen, bedroom, bathroom and home living furniture named 'The Kent Collection'.

Managing director Peter Cross said, "This is a very exciting time and opens up a brand new market for us. What's more, it allows many customers who believe that high-end bespoke furniture would exceed their budget, a real opportunity to own exactly that, at mid-range prices."

So, if you are currently in the market for upgrading any of these fundamental rooms within your home, here are six critical qualities you should expect:

- 1) You should not have to pay a fortune. Even the most experienced supply-and-fit specialist companies will offer you competitive prices and value for money.
- 2) Furniture installation is a skilled – infact, highly skilled – job. Look for a company with

its own installation team who have many years experience and expertise fitting a wide variety of different products.

- 3) Choose a company that offers you a complete, start-to-finish service: building work, wall and floor tiling, electrics and plumbing. You do not want lots of different tradespeople doing various parts of your project. Expect the company to do everything; you'll get a far better, more reliable job and you only ever have to communicate with one company.
- 4) Ask for (and expect) FREE computerized 3D planning. You should be offered unlimited alterations until your design is exactly how you want it, right down to every detail.
- 5) You should be offered a 100% guarantee on all installation work and furniture. No quibbles. I would personally never use a company that isn't prepared to put its money where its mouth is. They should be fully prepared to guarantee the quality of workmanship they promise you, by coming back without charge if anything goes wrong... and fixing it.
- 6) The best companies have a choice of modern, contemporary and traditional styles for you to choose from, each with factory built, colour matched rigid cabinets.

A company you can trust

REAM are one of the best, most meticulous and

skilled kitchen, bathroom, bedroom and home living suppliers and fitters I have found. They really take an interest in your job and put an incredible amount of care and attention into building and finishing your project to craftsmen standards. Plus their service doesn't stop there; they pride themselves in exceptional after sales service.

A project you'll be proud of for years and years

HAVING new fitted furniture can be a big project; getting the exact style and quality you want is important.

This company is impressive. They discuss every detail with you and care about your project as if they were installing it for one of their best friends.

Ream offers unrivalled choice to suit all types and lifestyles. They have a large range of styles you can choose from, all of a superb high quality, plus an excellent range of products and accessories from many of the best-known and reliable manufacturers.

Ream give you a complete guarantee on ALL your work and furniture.

Mr Cross insists on guaranteeing the work his team do for you. Luckily, little ever goes wrong because his directly employed installation team are among the best and most reliable fitters in the country.



Peter Cross,
managing director

He says: "If anything at all is not 100% right for you, or if anything goes wrong, we make it a priority to come back and correct it. We promise the best value in everything we do and ensure that promise is lived up to."

My advice?

IF YOU'RE thinking of having a new kitchen, bathroom, bedroom or home living furniture, call Ream now to arrange your free consultation.

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• For more information contact Ream on 01634 799912 or visit www.ream.co.uk

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Our ancient woodlands: how precious are they?

The pressure for roads, houses and business development in Kent can seem unrelenting to the point that there appears little space left for nature. **Joe Bill** looks at the conflict over one special habitat.

IT'S a debate that has raged for decades, but the conflict between protecting our environment and man's desire to constantly develop is yet to be resolved. Many believe it is unlikely ever to do so, with few on either side ready to back down.

Compromise, it sometimes seems, is a world away.

On a global scale, images of rainforests being hacked down and heart-wrenching tales of lost wildlife only heighten awareness of the need to protect precious land and habitat.

And while this seems to be happening thousands of miles away, making it easier to cast judgement, a battle not too dissimilar is raging right here on our doorstep.

One of Kent's particular battles involves its last remaining stretches of woodland.

Perhaps surprisingly for such a populated area, the South East can

“ Ancient woodland is effectively our last link to the wildwood that covered the UK after the last Ice Age ”

Richard Barnes,
from the Woodland Trust

still boast more ancient woodland than anywhere else in the country.

Ancient woodland is defined as land that has been continuously wooded since 1600, about the time the first detailed maps of the UK were produced.

Scientists say this would indicate that these particular areas have remained wooded since the last Ice Age.

However, they are under threat from development.

Although hailed by environmental experts as essential to the biodiversity of the country, very few ancient woodlands are legally protected.

In fact, just 18 per cent around the UK are designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), which grants an area special protection.

In Kent alone there are a staggering 88 woods under threat from planning applications.

The county was the setting during the last two years for conservation charity the Woodland Trust's largest-ever campaign to save one ancient woodland, which it lost, while a second battle will run into 2014.

But why is ancient woodland so important? What is it? And what happens if the push for development outweighs the need to keep the woodland intact?

Richard Barnes, senior conservation adviser for the Woodland Trust, explains why Kent has become such

an important battleground to save these special sites.

“The main thing about ancient woodland is that, practically speaking, it's irreplaceable,” he said.

“Ancient woodland is effectively our last link to the wildwood that covered the UK after the last Ice Age.

“If you look at 400-plus years, over that time the variety and diversity of wildlife in that woodland, and especially in the soil, is irreplaceable.

“It's a dwindling resource for the nation and it's gradually and continually being eroded by development.”

As part of the Government's National Planning Policy Framework, areas that are considered irreplaceable habitats, including ancient woodland, should not be developed unless an ‘offset’ is provided to re-create the same type of habitat elsewhere and maintain biodiversity.

However, Mr Barnes, who worked

as an ecologist for the Greater London Authority for 20 years before joining the Woodland Trust, believes that ‘offsetting’ is just acting as a loophole for developers.

“It's the micro-biology in the soil that is the basis of the ancient woodland ecosystem,” he said.

“It has evolved over hundreds of years. If you are just sticking trees in an arable field that has been sprayed with herbicide and fertiliser to make up for it, you won't have anything like the diversity of flora.

“One of the ancient woodlands along the A21 near Tunbridge Wells has listed more than 1,000 types of fungi and Natural England has considered giving it SSSI status because of the variety there.

“Some of these fungi don't even have names yet. Whatever you might

hear or read, you cannot just try and re-create it elsewhere.

“When people talk about translocation and picking up soil and plonking it somewhere else with a few trees, well, that would be like saying let’s take down St Paul’s, pile up all the bricks and the dome in a field and then say ‘There’s St Paul’s’.

“It’s completely out of its context and location – it’s greater than the sum of its parts, as is the woodland.”

Hermitage Quarry at Barming, near Maidstone, has seen a two-year battle between environmental campaigners and Gallagher Aggregates Ltd.

The quarrying company was finally granted planning permission by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Eric Pickles, in August this year to extend its ragstone quarry by 80 acres into nearby Oaken Wood.

Gallagher bosses claim the woodland they are set to dig up will be replaced by a far greener habitat for the future.

Chief executive Nick Yandle believes the habitat that Gallagher is responsible for creating after the dig will be of a better standard.

“If you read the inspector’s report, one of the key things the opposition chose not to go into was the quality of the ancient woodland,” he said.

“The public inquiry, an evidence-based process, demonstrated that it is of low ecological value. What it will be replaced with will be a better habitat.

“The essence is that there will be 23 years of quarrying and 15 phases. As you get into the process, phase one – after it is quarried – will be filled with inert material and planted up with native trees. And that process continues.

“On average it works out about 18



months per phase, so by the time we finish in 23 years’ time the first phase of woodland will have been in place for more than 20 years. So the

amount of land that is unwooded at any time is relatively small.

“There will also be the same space again replaced by trees. So the 80

acres of sweet-chestnut coppice, which is not a native species, will be replaced by 160 acres of native species of trees. If you were around in

100 years’ time, you would see twice as much.”

The quarry recovers stone for use in the repair of many of the county’s

CASE STUDY: OAKEN WOOD VS HERMITAGE QUARRY, BARMING

Oaken Wood is perched next to the historic Hermitage Quarry in Barming, near Maidstone.

The quarry has existed for more than a century, employs more than 100 people and is one of only two sources of valuable Kentish ragstone – used for raw materials and restoration of historic buildings – in the county.

More than two years ago a planning application was approved by the local authority for the quarry to be extended by 31 hectares into the nearby ancient Oaken Wood.

The Woodland Trust jumped to the defence of the area, gathering more than 6,000 signatures in protest in what has since been described as its “biggest campaign ever”.

The trust has since taken quarry operator Gallagher Aggregates Ltd through every legal process it can to try to stop the extension.

This July, however, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Eric Pickles, approved the application with the condition the developers offset and replace lost habitat with a new one.

At the time, the trust’s chief



executive Sue Holden said: “This is a landmark decision, but for all the wrong reasons. This so-called ‘greenest government ever’ stated that the National Planning Policy Framework would give sufficient protection to irreplaceable habitats

such as ancient woodland. It clearly does not – it seems no green space is safe.”

Bosses at the minerals company claim the habitat it will create after the dig will actually be of a better standard than the woodland that

stands at the moment.

Chief executive Nick Yandle said: “If you read the inspector’s report, one of the key things the opposition chose not to go into was the quality of the ancient woodland.

“ The 80 acres of sweet-chestnut coppice, which is not a native species, will be replaced by 160 acres of native species of trees ”

Richard Barnes,
from the Woodland Trust

“The public inquiry – an evidence-based process – demonstrated that it is of low ecological value. What it will be replaced with will be a better habitat.

“There will be the same space again replaced by trees. So the 80 acres of sweet-chestnut coppice, which is not a native species, will be replaced by 160 acres of native species of trees.

“If you were around in 100 years’ time, you would see twice as much.”



historic buildings as well as in new-build projects and the Hermitage site is one of only two sources of Kentish ragstone.

It has also been argued that the quarry provides more than 100 jobs for the area, providing an important economic boost.

But the potential damage to the diverse flora and fauna that calls the woodland home is the main reason the Woodland Trust has fought against any development.

It is adamant that trans-relocation and offsetting won't work.

"It's gradually being eroded," said the Woodland Trust's Mr Barnes.

"Though they claim there is some compensation with plants or an equal area somewhere else, how long will it be before the trees are a decent size for there to be roosting space for the bats?"

"It will be at least 30 years, and that's optimistic, so while they cut these trees down it's not like they have got a replacement ready-made for the animals to move into. There are fewer habitats for the bats or migrant birds or our resident birds."

"A bird migrating over, which has all the challenges of getting from Africa to here, plops down into the place they have been coming to for years only to find it isn't there any more."

There is also concern over fragmentation affecting the ancient woodland that does still exist.

"Although Kent and the South East have more ancient woodlands on average than the rest of the country, a lot of it is very fragmented," said Mr Barnes.

"There are tiny areas of wood cut

“ Trees and plants exist in complex ecological relationships that take a long time to appear and cannot be easily created ”

Peter Smith,
from the Wildwood Trust

off from other woods because of developments. This becomes a real challenge to our resident birds and animals because they can't stay there."

Woods in Kent house bats, dormice, turtle doves, nightingales and rare Duke of Burgundy butterflies.

Peter Smith, chief executive of the Canterbury-based Wildwood Trust and an ecology expert, believes that while ancient woodlands should be protected at all costs, the idea of biodiversity offsetting could work.

"In ancient woodlands, trees and plants exist in complex ecological relationships with special fungus in the ground and complex soil structure that takes a long time to appear and cannot be easily created without a long time for a woodland to develop."

"Therefore ancient woodland should be protected."

"But ecological science is telling us that such areas can be created quickly if the right techniques are used, such as woodland grazing using our Konik ponies or having beavers create wet woodland along riverbanks."

Mr Smith also believes the idea of offsetting is better than anything else at present but is sceptical that it would be completed to a good-enough standard to allow newly-created woodland to flourish like its ancient predecessor.

He said: "Who judges the quality of offsetting? If it were to work, it must be local – only a short distance from the disturbance. This must be firstly done by incorporating wildlife habitats and corridors within the development itself or very close."

"It must be administered by professional ecologists with no conflict of interest, independent of Government or commercial pressure, and it must be permanent. The land cannot be used for other things in the future."

A second environmental battle is in full swing along the A21 near Tunbridge Wells, where man and nature are locking horns once again.

In June this year the Government was slammed by conservation groups after £92 million was pledged for the heavily-used road to be made into a dual carriageway.

The road is known to all who travel it as an accident blackspot and a commuters' nightmare, while the new plans would see it widened to two lanes.

Although campaigners for the road improvements celebrated the decision, the Woodland Trust argued that the environmental cost to ancient woodland was too great, with nine hectares set to be lost to tarmac.

Tunbridge Wells MP Greg Clark is

CASE STUDY: WIDENING THE A21



In 2012, the Highways Agency resurrected plans to widen a stretch of the A21 between Tonbridge and Pembury.

The development would see the troublesome road become a dual carriageway resulting in the loss of at least nine hectares of ancient woodland.

The area is considered to be of huge importance by the Woodland Trust, which says it is comparable to a Site of Special Scientific Interest because it houses more than 1,000 species of fungi, is home to glow worms and houses 10 species of ladybird, 24 species of bee and at least 13 species of butterfly.

But movement for the road improvements has been heavily backed by local authorities and politicians, as well as the public and commuters.

The A21 is considered an accident blackspot as well as a misery for commuters, causing heavy traffic daily and disrupting local businesses.

Tunbridge Well Borough Council's economic development chief Jane March said: "As a general principle, the authority would resist any loss of ancient woodland; in the case of the A21, while the authority is concerned at the loss, the broader economic, environmental and safety aspects have been weighed up."

"The council supports the scheme because dualling this part of the A21 will improve access, travel times and road safety between the M25 and Royal Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells Hospital at Pembury and the North Farm estate for the benefit of residents, businesses and visitors."

“ The council supports the scheme because dualling this part of the A21 will improve access, travel times and road safety ”

Cllr Jane March,
from Tunbridge Wells council

"This scheme will provide some relief to the heavily-congested A26. The improvements will encourage inward investment and the growth of existing businesses as a result of better access to the strategic highway network."

The Woodland Trust has fought against the plans and a public inquiry has been forced. The decision now lies with the planning inspector, who will make recommendations to Eric Pickles.

Senior advisor at the Woodland Trust Richard Barnes said: "We recognise there is an issue with the transport there. Anyone who uses it knows that's a bad bit of road."

"We suggested they looked at the whole suite of public-transport and junction improvements, or look at tunnelling."

"It's disappointing the way they went ahead on this development without looking at other options. "It's a lack of balance to the inquiry – all they thought about was building the road."

A final decision is due in spring 2014.

NATURAL BEAUTY: The Woodland Trust's Richard Barnes wanders through ancient woodland
Pictures: ADY KERRY



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keen to have the A21 widened for the benefit of the community despite the impact it would have on the neighbouring woods.

He said: "The case for dualling the A21 between Tonbridge and Pembury is overwhelming – on economic, safety and environmental grounds.

"Over 35,000 vehicles travel through this section of the A21 every day. At peak times, the traffic comes to a halt, and anyone who has used the road will have experienced the frustration of sitting in interminable nose-to-tail traffic.

"It is a serious impediment to anyone doing business in or around Tunbridge Wells."

The four-mile stretch of road has also seen 71 accidents and three deaths in the past five years.

However, after a public inquiry was forced by conservationists, the development now lies

in the hands of the planning inspector, who will write a report to Eric Pickles with the recommendations on how to move forward.

Commenting on the impact that the development would have on the woodland, Conservative MP Mr Clark said he believed the road improvements might actually have a positive effect.

"The A21 scheme is an important environmental improvement," he said.

"It is well known that emissions and fuel-use by cars are at their worst when vehicles are idling in jams.

"Because the delays on the A21 are so notorious, traffic studies have shown that more cars and lorries use the A26 through Southborough and Tunbridge Wells to avoid it, causing congestion and air-quality problems.

"A dualled A21, by taking even a few vehicles off the A26, means traffic will flow more freely, giving respite to residents."

The Woodland Trust believes, how-

ever, that the more ancient woodland is lost in the onslaught of development, the more planning applications will be drawn up to take a chance at building on a piece of land.

Mr Barnes said: "Developing woodlands always seems to be the soft option.

"It comes from a combination of high population and a good proportion of ancient woodlands in our county.

"Our point of view is that we should be celebrating that diversity and wealth of woodland rather than thinking 'Oh well, there's enough there, we can cut some down'.

"They are the very reason some people come to Kent. The components of the oast houses, the hops, the vineyards and the ancient woodlands are attractive.

"Kent is renowned for it.

"In the past 15 years we have objected more than 1,000 applications on wooded areas. So it is gradual erosion.

“ All someone has to say is that there is a job involved with a development and it gets the go-ahead ”

Richard Barnes,
from the Woodland Trust

"People think they're safe and that someone is out there protecting these woods, but they're not safe."

With Kent being targeted for ever-more houses and development, Mr Barnes believes there will come a time when ancient woodland in the county has become so fragmented that it will no longer be able to function as an ecosystem.

He said: "It's disappointing that there is still this caveat in the national policy framework where the needs

and benefits outweigh the loss of ancient woodlands.

"At the moment there is no consideration of the environment. All someone has to say is that there is a job involved with a development and it gets the go-ahead.

"Only 15 per cent of the ancient woodland is covered as SSSI, so 85 per cent is left unprotected legally."

He also believes the continued erosion of our wooded areas will come back to haunt local authorities in the future.

"What about water run-off and flooding? That's happening all the time. If in the river basement catchment they have taken away 70 per cent of the trees, suddenly they find the rivers fill up too quickly and flood. That's because there are no woods.

"It seems disproportionate that one of our main habitats and one of our oldest and irreplaceable sites is so poorly protected.

"There is a new atmosphere that the environment doesn't matter."





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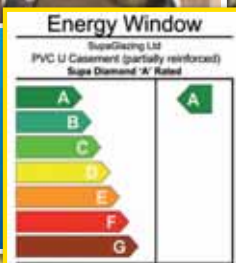
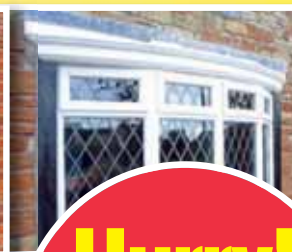
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Profile

Since enjoying brief success at Gillingham FC, Peter Taylor's career has taken in the Premiership and the manager's role with both England and Bahrain, but his return to Kent's League One club offers a new challenge, as he tells **Greg Miles**

PETER Taylor doesn't mind doing the odd bit of gardening while out of the beautiful game, but there is no place he would rather be than on a training pitch talking football.

Now back at Gillingham, the 60-year-old is as motivated as ever to keep working and learning, having taken over as interim manager following Martin Allen's unceremonious sacking two weeks ago.

It has been 13 years since he first took charge at Priestfield, overseeing the club's promotion to the First Division in the 1999/2000 season via a play-off final win over Wigan Athletic at Wembley.

It was just a season, but it gave him some of his fondest memories, while his lasting relationship with Gills chairman Paul Scally ensured he could one day make a return.

But Gillingham have not been the one-time England manager's only club in the county and he went through an important transition into non-league football and a 'day job' while at Maidstone in the 80s. He also had four successful years at Dartford and saved Dover from relegation before taking up a job as England Under-21 manager at the request of Glenn Hoddle.

By his own admission, his CV has more jobs in the game than he would have liked, covering everywhere from Hull to Bahrain, but his workaholic attitude has meant he has never passed up an opportunity, no matter what level.

"I look at my CV and it has got too many clubs on it, to be honest, but I want to work - I enjoy working," said Taylor.

"There are a lot of managers who will wait for the right opportunity. I regard myself as a football man, not a Premier League or Championship or League One person. It doesn't matter what league a job comes up in.

"I'm one of those people - I wake up in the morning and need something to do. I absolutely love being out on the training field putting ideas to players.

"When I left Bahrain [as national team boss] I went to Holland to study different coaching techniques and I couldn't wait to put them into practice. You get used to doing it and it becomes a part of your life."

A man of the people, down to earth and always happy to chat, the former England and Tottenham Hotspur winger was given a warm reception by home fans on his first game back in charge last Saturday.

It ended in defeat at Preston North End, but there were signs of improvement on the pitch.

A victory came soon enough on Tuesday night with a 2-1 win over fellow League One strugglers Notts County.

There were not hordes of autograph-hungry fans waiting at the players' door for him then, but there was one hardy soul who hung about in the shadows with programme and pen in hand until 11pm for Taylor to emerge and give him his signature.

Getting home before midnight is a bonus that comes with his new temporary job, which he hopes to secure full-time if results go his way.

There have often been times, though, where moving farther afield has become a necessity - like when he uprooted to then-Premier League Leicester City after leaving Gillingham in the summer of 2000 and when he took on management roles at Bradford City and Hull City.

"As a player I was very lucky. We moved to Surrey while I was at Crystal Palace for a couple of years, but apart from that we always lived in Essex, close to where we're from," he said.

"All of a sudden I got the Leicester job and I had to move away and was separated from our daughters. Sometimes that's tough with football, but that's what we have to do."

His first move to Kent came at Maidstone when the club's now-chief executive Bill Williams was manager.

Taylor said: "Maidstone was very good for me. It was at Leyton Orient, which was officially my last league club. I left there in 1982 after I had an injury. People were thinking I was injury-prone, but I broke my leg and never properly recovered from it.

"I had a chance to get a move elsewhere, but I decided I would like to play non-league and get myself a job.

"I had Bill Williams on the phone at Maidstone and he offered me the chance to play. It was one of the best decisions I've ever made - Bill was great to work with."

The idea of a modern-day footballer, in particular one who won four caps for his country, needing to get a day job outside the game seems out of the question, but it was a move that Taylor had to make for his family.

"I worked for Standard Life insurance company. It wasn't a direct selling job - I was dealing with insurance brokers," he said.

"It was absolutely fine. I started there in 1984 and left in 1991, when I went to Watford and got back into the professional game.

"Those days you couldn't just live on your non-league wage or your Standard Life money.

"People think we are absolutely loaded and don't need to do that. It made me more organised with budgeting and things like that. It helped me become a better manager."

“I wake up in the morning and need something to do. I absolutely love being out on the training field putting ideas to players”

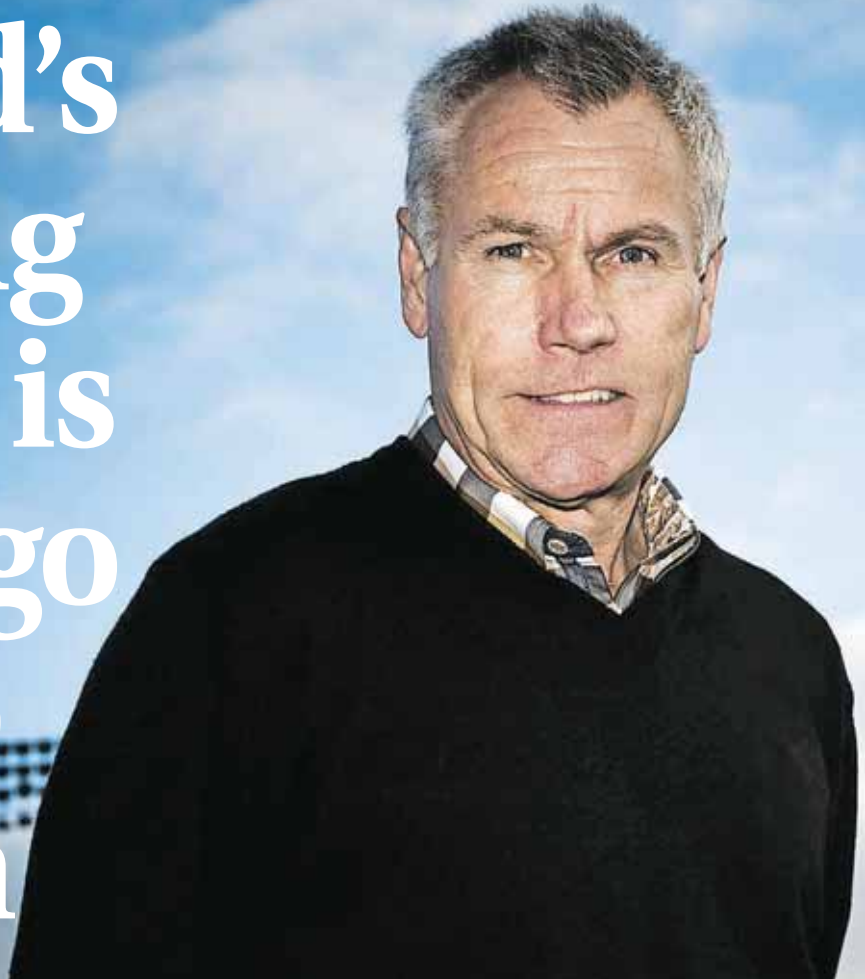


GOOD OLD DAYS: Taylor celebrates a Gills win during his first spell as Priestfield boss

Peter Taylor, on his passion for football and attitude to improving his teams

PAGE 16 »

Priestfield's footballing man who is happy to go where job takes him



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"I never, ever considered not doing football. The only way I was going to work at Standard Life was because they let me get away from training and games."

He carried on that job after moving to his first role as manager, at Dartford, which he combined with playing at the age of 33. He brought success, winning both the Southern Cup and the Kent Senior Cup twice, but there was no promotion despite strong league performances.

"I had four fantastic years there," he said. "I Google it now and again and you can see what they say about it, which is nice, really."

"Every year we scored more than 100 goals, we doubled the crowds and we won so many cups, and didn't finish anywhere lower than third in the table. It was my first job of looking after a team other than a Sunday one."

It was at Dartford that he first managed Gills legend Andy Hessenthaler.

The midfielder rose from the non-league game after working as a labourer and had two spells as manager at Gillingham; he played for the club more than 300 times.

The pair later worked together at Watford and Hess also played a part in Taylor coming to the Gills in the summer of 1999.

Taylor's success at Dartford paved the way for a dream move to his home-town club Southend United after a spell at Watford, but it was a difficult job following in the footsteps of colourful Football League figure Barry Fry, who had sold the club's best players.

After two years, in 1995 he was



KING-MAKER: Peter Taylor takes training with the Bahrain national team, left. He handed David Beckham, right, the England captaincy back in 2000



back in Kent at Dover Athletic. The club had endured a miserable start to the season and needed saving from relegation.

Although he signed a long-term deal to stay, his time at the Crabble Ground was short-lived courtesy of an offer he could not turn down.

"Dover brought me in when they had played 11 matches and had lost 10 on the spin," he said. "They said to me just to keep them up – which we did."

"There were only two teams that went down from the division. It's a bit lucky there weren't three, otherwise we could have gone down, too."

"I did sign a contract to stay there, but I got a phone call from Glenn [Hodde] about doing the England Under-21 job on a full-time basis and it was a job I couldn't turn down. It was nothing against Dover or the place. I think everybody understood."

Gillingham were next on the agenda and he had a difficult task, taking over from Tony Pulis, who had left following the heartbreaking defeat to Manchester City in the 1998/99 Second Division play-off final.

The Gills went 2-0 up in the last 10 minutes to give them what looked like victory, but astonishingly City scored twice, the second in injury time, to take the game to extra time. They eventually won 3-1 on penalties.

"I remember watching the play-off final with Man City. I never dreamed that two weeks later I would be Gills' new manager," he said.

"I think Paul Scally wanted Hess and Steve Butler to have a go, but they felt they needed an older head with them. That's why I got the phone call from Andy [Hessenthaler]."

"The first time I met Paul it was a very long meeting, incredibly long. I met him at a hotel. When I came away I still wasn't sure whether I had

got the job. It was the next morning that I found out.

"Paul deserves a lot of credit for what he's done. When I was here before, my office was in a portakabin."

Taylor succeeded where Pulis had just failed and took them up, via the play-offs, but left for the opportunity

“I think Paul Scally wanted Hess and Steve Butler to have a go, but they felt they needed an older head. That's why I got the call from Andy [Hessenthaler]”

Peter Taylor, on how he got the position of Gills manager first time

of a lifetime in the Premier League at Leicester.

While there, he also had the honour of managing England for one game, a defeat against Italy, after Kevin Keegan left the job in November 2000.

It was just the single game, but he made a decision that shaped the team and one player's career for the next decade: he gave David Beckham the captain's armband for the first time.

"When I had the opportunity to look after the England side, I wanted to pick players aged 30 or younger."

"I said 'I don't want anyone who's 35 playing – they don't need the game'. I had three in mind for the captaincy: Gareth Southgate, Gary Neville and David Beckham."

"It may have been Gareth or Gary in respect of their position [on the pitch] at the time, but I went with David simply because his attitude was terrific. He got better as a captain and as a player after that."

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In focus

IT'S a chilly autumn morning and the sea looks grey.

Folkestone, much of its seafront crying out for redevelopment, not least on the site next to Onyx nightclub, appears a far cry from the up-and-coming town many claim will be the next big thing.

One of the coolest places to live, in fact, according to The Times newspaper back in March.

Many of the grand Victorian buildings lining the seafront could do with a hearty lick of paint, others a complete refurbishment. The Grand Burs-
tin Hotel, with its coachload of visitors outside, remains as a reminder of the traditional seaside holiday.

Yet when you walk towards the harbour, under the arches and along the cobbled walkway, something changes. Turn around and head up The Old High Street and this change gathers strength. Galleries, cafés and independent boutiques line the pedestrianised street.

Shop-owners peddle their wares with vibrant and smart window displays and artists show off their work in small galleries-cum-workshops.

Running parallel is Tontine Street, years ago a notorious night-time trouble-spot now in the throes of an artistic renaissance.

Return to the seafront and you'll learn that major development is on the horizon to bring it back to life.

A renaissance of the once-popular, thriving seaside resort is happening, and at its heart is creativity and art.

The Creative Foundation, set up by former Saga boss Roger De Haan, is one of the main players in reversing the fortunes of this once run-down part of Folkestone by turning it into the Creative Quarter, while Shepway District Council has given the nod for a big development on the seafront, designed by architect Sir Terry Farrell, to transform the former, now desolate, Rotunda site with homes, restaurants, shops and sports facilities.

Art, it seems, has breathed life and a new confidence into the town.

But regeneration of this kind is nothing new.

In London, areas such as Brixton and Hackney, once associated with vast housing estates, run-down high streets and poverty, have become sought-after destinations for young, affluent Londoners who believe these inner-city areas are the places to be.

While some have managed to keep their identity, intermingled with pop-up restaurants and arty shops, others have become what some academics describe as victims of gentrification.

Property prices and rents are pushed up, subsequently pricing local people out. Artists seeking that mix of creativity with the urban grit of inner-city living find that rawness they were looking for disappearing.

Some academics are now predicting the same could happen in coastal towns, that local artists and residents will be priced out and the charming seaside shabbiness lost in a whirl of yummy mummies and hipster types.

Margate, which has seen some change with the opening of Turner Contemporary and the transformation of the Old Town, and Folkestone were the focus of such research in which the author, Jonathan Ward from the University of Kent, warned that culture-led gentrification was



Are we polishing the gritty appeal from our coastal towns?

Certain places attract us because they're a little rough around the edges... cheap enough for us to afford to live in and quirky enough to inspire artistic types. But could those towns' rising popularity be their downfall? **Marijke Cox** investigates.

causing some artists to radically alter the character of their area.

This led to property prices rising, rents going up and the artists ultimately pricing themselves and other locals out of the property market.

"Artists often have paltry budgets and are attracted to cheap locations inhabited by working-class and other disadvantaged groups," he said.

"If Margate and Folkestone are to keep their status as important sites of cultural production, and not just cultural consumption, then they must remain affordable and symbolically desirable places for artists to live."

It's not just artists who are affected, according to Mr Ward.

He said there had been a mixed response to the introduction of such art-led regeneration.

While many have hailed it a success – a boost to these once-popular resorts that declined so rapidly after the advent of the package holiday in the 1960s – others fear they are losing their identity, stripped of traditional seaside aesthetics and heritage, such as rock shops and arcades.

In Mr Ward's research, one re-

spondent to his study criticised the ousting of shops selling traditional seaside items, questioning what positive role artists were actually having.

"What are they coming here for and what are they bringing here? What do they contribute?"

Another respondent questioned why artists wanted to move to the area, simply to then change it.

"They sincerely think we need to get rid of the arcades and turn them into posh B&Bs because that'll be good for the town," he said. "There's no point moving somewhere and wanting to turn it into somewhere else."

Mr Ward said there could be an overly narrow focus on the needs of cultural consumers to the exclusion of the existing population and artists.

He told us: "To take the example of Margate, more than one research respondent was concerned that Turner Contemporary was too intent on creating a brand attractive to bringing tourists in, based on internationally recognisable artists, while actively excluding local artists."

"Moreover, concern was expressed

by the same artists that, while the Old Town was improving, the high street remained neglected, to the detriment of the needs of local people.

"That's not to say there can't be a role for the arts in helping regenerate seaside towns, but it needs to be balanced, with competing demands."

While a fear of gentrification might hover for some, it's difficult to argue against the benefits of cultural regeneration or to fail to see the positive difference in both Margate and Folkestone.

Since the arrival of Turner Contemporary, the Old Town and harbour area in Margate have witnessed the arrival of new shops, cafés, restaurants and bars.

Confidence in the area has grown, with a heritage theme park on the old Dreamland site planned to open in 2015, along with a mooted multi-million-pound hotel on The Rendezvous site near the Turner gallery.

But Margate, which has two of the most deprived wards in the country, continues to have problems with its high street, a victim of out-of-town shopping centre Westwood Cross and now almost defined by empty shops.

In his research, Mr Ward states that people living on the breadline are not going to be interested in buying art and that more focus on what local people need is required.

However, with money coming in through the Old Town and Turner, which has brought an estimated £21.1 million into the local economy since opening in 2011, this could be the crucial catalyst for change.



“ We need economic wealth to support people, but clearly this has to be done in a way that maintains the character, tradition and heritage of the area ”

Clive Hart,
leader of Thanet District Council

Victoria Pomery, director of Turner Contemporary, told KoS that Margate was changing, with a diverse audience visiting the gallery and town: "Traditionally, it was a successful seaside resort, but what the nation wants has changed. Therefore resorts have had to reinvent themselves."

Asked whether Margate was at risk of becoming a victim of gentrification, she said: "I'd argue that we haven't got there yet. The sort of gen-

trification through regeneration that we've seen in London has not happened in our part of the UK and I don't see it happening here.

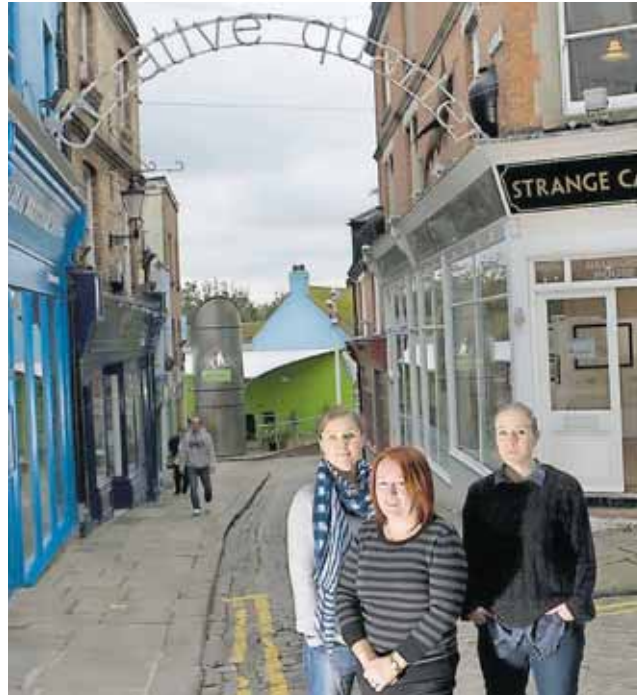
"I want Margate to succeed – I live here. The issue is around how far is Thanet District Council prepared to go with this regeneration."

Ms Pomery stressed that as far as she was concerned it was good to have people moving into the area, with the arts scene positive for the town.

Commenting on the gallery's contribution, she said that it was a fantastic resource, attracting both national and international visitors.

"We run a changing programme at Turner Contemporary.

"We work with schools and there are lots of ways in which people can get involved," she said. "We see a diverse audience coming here, whether young, old or families from all walks of life."



COUNCIL leader Clive Hart said cultural regeneration was absolutely key, not just for Margate, but to Thanet's economy as a whole.

"The positive impact this is having is already evident. Not only has Turner Contemporary attracted more than one million visitors to the area, introducing a new audience to Thanet, it has also contributed over £21m to the local economy.

"Ultimately, we need economic



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wealth to support people across all levels, but clearly this has to be done in a way that complements the community and environment, maintaining the character, tradition and heritage of the area.

"Under Live Margate, the council is working in partnership on the Housing Intervention Programme and the Margate Task Force, projects that recognise a holistic approach is needed.

"When we look at encouraging

growth in the area, we also need to consider developing local skills and jobs, improving the provision of housing and developing a balanced and cohesive community."

In the council's Creative Margate 10 Year Delivery Plan, it emphasises that while attracting creative talent is important, it is crucial the town remains a place for the community.

"Policies in housing, job-creation and social cohesion will be informed

by Creative Margate and the cultural sector," it stated. "Margate will be recognised as a place of innovation and risk in community engagement and somewhere for intercultural opportunity by the sea."

It also held a focus on entrepreneurialism and education, working with the learning sector to encourage local people to see Margate as a place to be valued and to start a business.

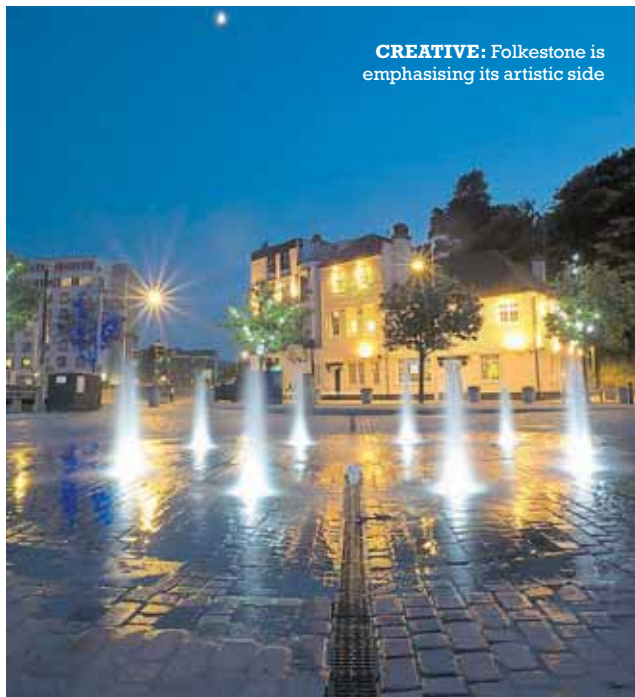
Many argue the transformation of

Margate and the money coming in can only be a good thing if it is reinvested into the community.

The same is said for Folkestone.

In 2011, the hugely successful Folkestone Triennial – one of the most ambitious public-art displays in the UK – ran over three months, with both permanent and temporary artworks installed across the town by nationally- and internationally-acclaimed artists.

CREATIVE: Folkestone is emphasising its artistic side



There was an influx of thousands of visitors over the three months and some of the artwork remains to this day for the community to enjoy.

A Shepway District Council spokeswoman said the Triennial was designed primarily to bring contemporary art of a high calibre closer to ordinary people rather than to attract an affluent audience.

"The notion was of a gallery without walls, with no admission charges," she said.

Shepway council is quick to deny gentrification through the arts in Folkestone.

Alan Clifton-Holt, cabinet member for the district economy, said: "Britain's traditional bucket-and-spade and kiss-me-quick-hat seaside holidays started to decline with the introduction of cheap flights, which brought foreign holiday destinations within reach.

"Over several years there has been a gradual shift in emphasis in Folkestone, away from the traditional resort destination into emerging, but not exclusive, creative industries.

"Lots of good things about are now being recognised thanks to Roger De Haan and the Creative Quarter's influence.

"We've a great coastline, some wonderful countryside including an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, we've got some great places to eat, some fantastic live music venues and a thriving arts and events scene.

"It's a place where you can take your car on a train under the Channel, enjoy an evening meal in France and be back for the 10 o'clock news.

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"All these things combined, especially the under-an-hour-from-London train journey, make Folkestone more popular than ever and led to it being voted the fifth-coolest place to live in Britain by The Times this year.

"So it's not just about the arts or artists – it's a lot more than that."

A Shepway spokeswoman stressed the focus was strongly about not forcing out local artists.

"The Creative Foundation's model is based on the principle of gaining long-term charitable ownership of a substantial number of buildings [more than 80], precisely so that artists could not be forced out by commercial landlords' higher prices as regeneration takes hold, as often happens in places where art has been a catalyst for change," she said.

"And change often means places become 'edgier' than they were before, but in a different way."

She said 95 per cent of studios, shops and living spaces under the Creative Foundation's control were let.

"We estimate the Creative Quarter is providing work for well over 400 people," she said. "These figures are roughly equal numbers of people who have lived in the area previously, and others who are moving here."

The Creative Foundation says it works closely with local authorities, higher-education institutions and public/private partnership bodies to ensure growth in the community.

"Education is also a critical part of what we do. We have been instrumental in bringing in the sixth-form



OPTIMISTIC: Turner Contemporary's Victoria Pomery insists that the arts are an important part of regeneration

People are seeing coastal destinations as more than just seaside resorts

Brigitte Orasinski,
on regeneration of coastal towns

centre at Glassworks and Folkestone Adult Education Centre at The Cube.

"The Creative Foundation believes in the power of creativity to transform people, places and communities.

"We are passionate about this and believe it will inspire others to be curious and imagine a changed future."

Artists from the town are also happy. Strange Cargo was set up in 1995 to produce, develop, support and deliver high-quality participatory art.

Artistic director Brigitte Orasinski said the arts scene was all positive.

"It's not just about the arts, it's about the broader picture," she said.

"People are seeing coastal destinations as more than just seaside resorts. With the rail link, people are moving to the seaside and bringing their children up here.

"House prices here are affordable and lots of people are moving down.

"We're seeing people moving here for the first time, a significant increase. But it's not pricing people out."

Whether this will eventually happen remains to be seen, but speaking



to Miles Shippside, commercial director and housing-market analyst at Right Move, house prices are rising.

He said the economy was picking up and demand would be felt in areas within commuting distance to London.

"People are priced out of London, so they look to places like Kent. This has a ripple effect," he said.

Artist Johnny Cotter, who lives in the town and who used to have a gallery in the high street, said he didn't think artists were being priced out but that house prices could go up.

"I know people say High Speed 1 is expensive, but it's cheaper than driving to London every day," he said.

"You can buy a five-bed house down here for much less.

"But Folkestone has already survived an influx of new people. I think

what the council should do is embrace and encourage this."

He said artists coming in could only be a good thing for the town.

His hopes were echoed by Strange Cargo's Ms Orasinski: "There's an influx of creative people. All different types – writers, film-makers and so on.

"We're in a state of flux. Things are evolving, it's not yet established."

Jonathan Ward from the University of Kent admitted that organisations such as Strange Cargo showed how art could be used to help regenerate towns without gentrification.

"This is regeneration in terms of making them better places to live, engendering pride and a sense of ownership of place," he said. "When the arts are deployed in strategies where the focus is primarily economic regeneration, then gentrification is a likely, if not inevitable, outcome.

"Margate and Folkestone are interesting in that they are traditionally seaside towns that thrive on tourism. There is a chance that a boom in visitors could help the cafés, hotels and other tourist amenities to create jobs and filter tourist money around the towns."

Whether gentrification has or is due to arrive, it can't be denied the boom in cultural and art regeneration has only gone to shine a light on two formerly crumbling towns.

Folkestone is listed as one of the 'coolest places to live' and Margate as one of the best places to visit in the world by Rough Guide – few are turning their noses up at such accolades.

The key is striking the balance between bringing new opportunities in, and with them new people, and looking after the needs of those who have lived here for generations.

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Dungeness C is within our power

MP for Folkestone and Hythe **Damian Collins** says recent events in the energy sector, combined with advances in technology, give fresh hope for the development of a third nuclear reactor in south Kent



IF WE want to keep the lights on in Britain and energy prices down, we need to ensure we have a secure and readily-available supply of electricity.

That's why this week's announcement from the Government that it had reached a deal with EDF energy to allow the construction of a new nuclear power station at Hinkley Point in Somerset was so important.

Nuclear power will provide us with a clean and reliable source of energy for decades to come, but Hinkley Point should just be the first of a number of new stations – a list that should also include Dungeness.

The current Dungeness B power station is in the process of applying for an extension to its operating licence that will allow it to continue to produce electricity into the late 2020s.

It is an excellent location for a power station as it is situated in an area of high energy demand and it is cheaper to supply power to the grid from Dungeness than other, more remote, locations.

The station has also enjoyed an excellent safety record and strong support from the community.

I have continually pressed the Government over including Dungeness on the list of approved sites for new nuclear power stations.

Last year, following my request to the Prime Minister, the Government published a review of the advice it had received about whether or not the site would be suitable.

The only issue with building a new power station at Dungeness has been the regulations concerning nature conservation on the shingle surrounding the site.

However, if areas of undisturbed

shingle are to remain untouched then the Government has made it clear it should be possible to proceed.

This should not be an insurmountable barrier as large areas of shingle around the current power stations

were already disturbed when the current nuclear reactors were built, and more land will

soon become

available at

Dungeness A

when the

turbine hall

is demolished

as part of its

decommissioning.

Advances

in nuclear

technology

also mean that

smaller reactor

types may soon be possible

that can be constructed

off site and then assembled on

location.

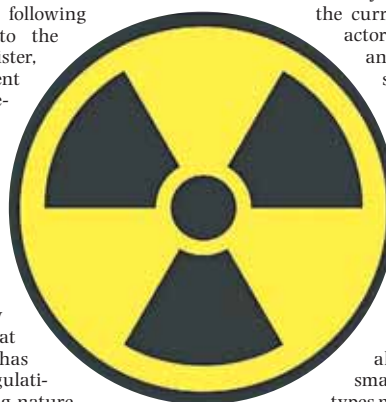
These types of 'modular' reactors are gaining interest and support in America and could suit a site like Dungeness, which is more constrained in terms of the land available than a location like Hinkley Point.

Last Monday in the House of Commons I asked Ed Davey, the Secretary of State for Energy, about this, with specific reference to Dungeness.

He replied that I was "a doughty champion of Dungeness, and it may have a role to play in the future" and he agreed that new technology supporting smaller reactors "could be part of such a role" for Dungeness.

Mr Davey has previously met me and the leader of Shepway District Council to discuss the future of Dungeness and has assured me that his door is open to any energy company that wants to discuss plans to take forward a proposal for a new nuclear power station here.

The fight goes on, but the overall news of the progress with the UK's next generation of nuclear power stations makes a future Dungeness C more likely than before.



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Hospital is under fire again over maternity unit fears

Already in special measures due to high mortality rates, the Medway Maritime Hospital has been hit by a damning report on its midwifery care, writes **Marijke Cox**

JUST three months after being placed in special measures for "fundamental breaches of care", Medway Maritime Hospital is in the firing line again, this time for its maternity services.

Health chiefs at Medway NHS Foundation Trust, which runs the Gillingham hospital, were this week served with three formal warnings and told to take urgent action in improving the safety and welfare of women using maternity and midwifery services.

It followed an unannounced inspection by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) in August, which uncovered failings in meeting national regulations in staffing, supporting workers and assessing and monitoring the quality of service-provision.

The inspection was carried out by a 12-strong team at maternity wards, the delivery suite, the antenatal clinic and three locations in the community over the space of four days and one evening.

Adrian Hughes, regional director of CQC in the South, said, while patients and relatives they spoke to said they had received good treatment, inspectors had serious concerns about the care and treatment of women using the services.

"The report we have published shows the trust needs to deal with staffing levels as a matter of priority – and also to support the midwives who already work there better to perform their roles," he said.

"We found that governance systems and management oversight of the services were not good enough, and this needs to change."

It comes as another huge knock to the trust, which has found itself in hot water in recent months.

Only in July it was named among 11 of 14 trusts in England, under investigation by NHS medical director Sir Bruce Keogh, to be put in special measures. This followed an investigation into standards of care at Medway.

Mortality rates were investigated, laying bare problems with high death rates from 2010/11 to 2011/12.

A further probe revealed more worrying findings, including poor communication with patients, poor management of deteriorating patients, inappropriate referrals and medical interventions, delayed discharges and long A&E waiting times.

Under special measures the trust will be required to turn things around with help from specialist external teams.

After being in the spotlight for its failings, this latest blow will be particularly unwelcome.

Mr Hughes said: "The treatment and care provided by Medway NHS Foundation Trust has already been identified by Professor Sir Bruce Keogh and his team as being of concern – and the trust has been placed in special measures by the Secretary of State on that basis.

"We are committed to returning to the trust in due course to check whether general improvements required by that process have been made.

"In the meantime, our inspectors will return unannounced in the near future to check the hospital has made the changes required by the warning notices."

The trust said some of the findings from this latest inspection were consistent with the Keogh review's discoveries and were already being addressed by the Keogh Quality Improvement Plan.

"Thousands of mothers choose to give birth at Medway Maritime Hospital and our specialist staff safely deliver over 5,000 babies every year," said Professor Hasib Ahmed, clinical director for women's services.

"The safety of women in our care is paramount. I was reassured the inspection team confirmed both verbally and in the report that 'all the women expressed their satisfaction with the standards of care they received and



DISCIPLINED: Medway Maritime Hospital failed inspection

What Medway NHS Foundation Trust is doing:

- **The ratio of midwives to patients:** plans to increase the ratio of midwives from one to 34 mothers per annum to one to 29 mothers per annum by the end of the year are on target.
- **Midwifery appraisals and mandatory training:** all midwifery staff are professionally registered and competent to discharge their roles. A programme is in place to ensure that any midwife who has not participated in an annual appraisal, including reviewing their refresher mandatory training, does so by November 2013.
- **Effective monitoring and assessment of the quality of services:** the maternity services team is ensuring that staff understand and are actively involved in the processes and systems for effectively monitoring and assessing the quality of services to continuously improve the safety, outcomes and experience of women's services.

spoke highly of the midwives and other staff who attended to them".

"With the support of the new chief nurse, we are making positive progress with our midwifery recruitment, appraisal and mandatory training.

"We are also reminding staff of our local governance processes and systems which ensure that we continuously improve and enhance our maternity services to build on the excellent patient feedback we receive."

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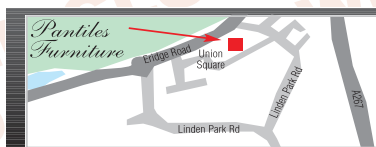
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Set to music with a theme of fire, the hugely popular display will also use moving images and projections on the side of the castle to create a spectacle not to be missed.

This year's party atmosphere will have everyone dancing and singing along to the well-known songs.

There will even be an inspirational nod to the London 2012 Olympics, when Leeds Castle was proud to host Maidstone's Olympic Torch Relay event.

Plenty of entertainment will be on offer during the afternoon, including an amazing fire tree, live music from Adam Chandler, children's fairground rides, fire-juggling, fire-breathing and a bed-of-nails show from Britain's Got Talent auditionees What A Palaver.

Come for the evening performance or arrive early for the afternoon entertainment. Gates open at 2pm, last admission at 5pm, with fireworks starting at about 5.30pm.

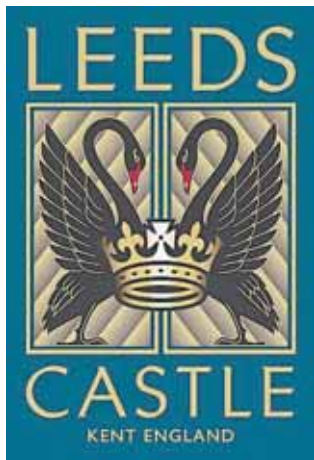
To be in with a chance of winning one of the five Sunday tickets up for grabs, simply answer the following question:

How old is Leeds Castle, near Maidstone?

- a) 900 years old
- b) 100 years old
- c) 50 years old

Closing date for answers is Sunday, November 3, 2013.

www.kentnews.co.uk



The castle itself will be closed to the public on November 9-10, but the gardens and grounds will remain open to those attending the Fireworks Spectacular. A falconry display will take place near the maze at 3.30pm.

Tickets are priced at £18.50 for adults and £12 for children under 16; under-fours go free if reserved at the time of booking. Group rates are available.

All tickets must be booked in advance at www.leeds-castle.com/events or by calling the Leeds Castle box office on 01622 880008. A booking fee of £2.50 per transaction applies to all orders. Key to the Castle tickets are not valid for this event.

Leeds Castle is near Maidstone, just off junction eight of the M20 and only one hour's drive from London.

To enter, text KOS followed by FIREWORKS and your answer, then your first name, surname, address and postcode to 80058, eg KOS FIREWORKS C JOHN SMITH 2 THE STREET, TOWN, DV2 2GT. Texts cost 50p plus your standard network rate.

Winners will be selected from all correct entries. The promoter's decision is final.

Usual terms and conditions apply, full details of which can be found on our website www.kentnews.co.uk. Please note that if you should enter after the closing deadline, November 3, 2013, your entry will not be valid but you still may be charged.

SMS services are provided by BBA Digital Helpline Telephone 0844 3572403.

Alternatively, enter by post to Fireworks Competition, Archant KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Kent TN25 6SS, including your name, address, postcode and contact telephone number.

Getting switched on

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driving page 61 »



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Massive increase in flytipping but only a paltry number of fines is handed out

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

NEW figures have revealed that fly-tipping has soared in the past two years despite authorities waging war against the problem.

A staggering 16,641 incidents were reported in the county during 2012/13 – an increase of some 15 per cent since 2010/11.

Of those, the county's district and borough councils investigated 13,297, costing taxpayers £295,185.

Fines of just £5,581 were levied, yet the total cost of clearing flytipped rubbish reached a massive £836,943 across Kent.

For cash-strapped councils already bearing the brunt of deep Government cuts, this extra outgoing caused by flytippers is particularly unwelcome.

There were a mere 48 prosecutions, with Tunbridge Wells Borough Council leading the way in seizing vehicles. Penalty notices, cautions and warning letters were used to deal with the majority of offenders.

But, worryingly, with councils introducing more stringent rules over what they will accept at their tips, including the type of vehicles allowed in, it's likely that more people will go to secluded footpaths, bridleways and

even highways, railways and alleyways to ditch their waste.

Of the county's local authorities, Medway Council was worst affected, with 4,576 incidents in 2012/13, of which 4,155 were investigated at a cost of £119,691.

Clearance costs were £195,019; fines levied were just £1,132.

Medway Council official Robin Cooper, who is in charge of dealing with waste, said the high figures reflected the fact that the area had the largest population of all the councils.

He said the majority of dumping came from commercial waste.

"We have just set up an environmental hit squad whose sole job is to tackle the problem," he said.

"Whenever we have a report of fly-tipping, they will go out very quickly to investigate and assess the quickest and easiest method of clearing it up. If we can find out who is responsible, we will also prosecute them."

He warned that people who have had work done on their homes could be the ones prosecuted if they hired a workman who later dumped the resulting waste, although he stressed the council would usually go after the culprit.

Dan Cook, from commercial waste company Viridor, said commercial waste needed to be disposed of properly by licensed operators, adding:

"The more that is recycled, the lower the cost of disposal."

As an example, he said it would cost about £25 to dispose of a bathroom suite.

Medway councillor Peter Hicks, portfolio holder for community safety, said: "We are taking action to tackle flytipping and we have mounted a high-profile campaign encouraging people to report incidents."

"There has been an increase in fly-tipping in Medway following last year's closure of a number of sites outside Medway to trade waste."

"However, the overall figure shows a decrease of 29 per cent compared with our base line in 2005."

Hilary Newport from CPRE said the worsening problem of flytipping was in a lot of cases down to ignorance.

She said: "Householders do need to use people who are properly licensed, but perhaps some of the rules are too stringent. In many cases, this dumping is just down to ignorance."

Pointing out the huge number of commercial-waste sites across the county, David Brazier, the county council's cabinet member for the environment, said: "We try to make it easy for traders, so there is no excuse for dumping in the countryside. Some people think they can get away with it because they are criminals."

TOTAL NUMBER OF INCIDENTS 2012/13

Ashford Borough Council	946
Canterbury City Council	1,664
Dartford Borough Council	1,304
Dover District Council	903
Gravesham Borough Council	1,438
Maidstone Borough Council	942
Medway Council	4,567
Sevenoaks District Council	335
Shepway District Council	1,008
Swale Borough Council	1,925
Thanet District Council	904
Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council	416
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	208

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Representative APR	4.9% APR	Representative APR	4.9% APR	Representative APR	4.9% APR
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New organiser confirms the return of Hop Farm Festival

After its much-publicised demise, **Joe Bill** talks to the man bringing back a major Kent music event

AFTER speculation over whether or not the Hop Farm Music Festival would be returning next year, the new organisers have confirmed that it is full steam ahead for a revamped event in 2014.

Speaking to KoS this week, Neil Butkeraitis, director of Nottingham-based UK Events, the firm behind the plans, confirmed that the festival would be making a comeback next summer at Paddock Wood with new owners, promoters and direction.

But just as Mr Butkeraitis confirmed his intentions, original Hop Farm Music Festival founder Vince Power announced his own hopes for an event next year.

He says he will be bringing his own festival back to a different site in the Tunbridge Wells area.

Mr Butkeraitis, meanwhile, is not thinking in terms of just a one-off show.

"We are looking to the future. I have been in the business for a number of years and am looking forward to helping build this festival back up," he said.

"It is the people's festival and had become a big date in the festivals calendar. We think it has great potential and are looking for a crowd of 20,000 for the first year. That is a good size and a realistic starting point.

"There is a lot of positive feedback about the festival from the fans – they want to see it return."

The Hop Farm Festival when run by Mr Power pulled in crowds of up to 50,000 after its creation in 2008.

Headline acts over the years included Prince, Morrissey, Suede, Neil Young and Bob Dylan, but in 2012 the event hit financial difficulties due to unpaid bills and the company collapsed.

Mr Power did attempt to revive the event on a scaled-down level this year – reducing the capacity to just 10,000 – but ticket sales flopped and it was cancelled.

Mr Butkeraitis already organises the successful Flashback Festival, staged in Nottinghamshire and featuring a line-up of 80s stars, and is keen to develop a long-term relationship with the Hop Farm.

"It [the festival] had a lot of negative press about the troubles in the past and got a bad reputation in the industry after what happened last year," he said.

A BIG HIT: Previous Hop Farm Festival acts have included Suede, right, and Prince

"We had heard all about what happened, but it was a chance meeting between us and the landowners that started things rolling."

The news will perhaps come as a surprise to those music fans who last heard that the Hop Farm Music Festival, under Mr Power's leadership, owed headliners like Peter Dinklage and Suede £100,000 and £46,000 respectively.

However, in August this year a new company calling itself Hop Farm Music Festival Ltd was set up by UK Events and an account on social-networking site Twitter started to whip up publicity.

Hundreds of people are already following the account and festival fans have been asking which bands are likely to headline in 2014.

Until now, organisers have been keeping tight-lipped, but KoS tracked down Mr Butkeraitis this week and he told us that his team had been taking note of who the public wanted to see at the Hop Farm.

As a previous attendee himself, he has noted the changes that can be made to the festival from the past.

He said: "We won't be pulling in bands or artists the size of Prince, to start with, but we are certainly looking to grow.

"They will be chart bands, but we can't say who just yet. We have been working on them for months now, but until contracts are signed we can't say anything.

"We will be looking to release some of the headline names in February."

The entrepreneur will be looking to add new ideas to the festival layout.

"We want to have something for everyone at all times during the day on the different stages. There will be an introducing stage for local bands to come and get involved – we're very keen on that.

"And we are looking at having jazz and swing music as well. We will also be incorporating some of the woodlands into the event, to make it a bit more quirky."

The early interest in the comeback has meant that organisers are considering putting some tickets on sale as early as next month, but prices and dates remain unconfirmed.

Miguel Fenton, spokesman for Hop Farm Ltd, which runs events at the site, spoke of the venue's delight in hosting the festival in 2014.

"It's without doubt Kent's major music festival and it's great to have it back," he said.



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SOME 90 years ago, a prototype lifeboat, the largest the world had ever seen, was launched in the seas off the River Mersey.

Named the William & Kate Johnston, the vessel was to become legendary, changing the way RNLI ships were designed and going on to save more than 200 lives.

Stationed at New Brighton near the mouth of the Mersey from 1923, the reputedly unsinkable 40-tonne lifeboat was eventually retired in 1950 after a demanding career.

Decades later, its history continuing to be celebrated, the lifeboat now finds itself in less stormy waters.

Currently located in Dover, its test-bed design is being restored in a project led by new owner and former broadcaster Alexander Thompson, who has so far sunk £5,000 of his life savings into the restoration.

One of those helping restore the vessel is Alan Collins.

"This particular lifeboat is worth saving because, simply, she is unique," he said. "She was a prototype that made it into everyday service and the only one of her kind. This was the largest lifeboat in the world when she was launched."

Designed by James R Barnett, the William & Kate Johnston became the first Barnett Class lifeboat.

A consulting naval architect to the RNLI, Barnett had decided it was time the vessels were improved dramatically.

The resulting ship – named after William Johnston, a previous cox at the New Brighton lifeboat station, and his wife Kate – was built in 1923 at Cowes on the Isle of Wight by J Samuel White and marked the start of a number of firsts for lifeboats.

One was the onboard lavatory. Then there was the stove and two huge cabins to take both the crew and up to 50 people saved from the waves. In fact there was room for 130 people, although that was never tested.

However, this capacity did mean that for the first time survivors were afforded immediate warm food and shelter.

But perhaps most importantly, the lifeboat had two engines, meaning it not only had extra power to tackle

Labour of love puts the wind back in ship sails

A lifeboat involved in the rescue of hundreds of people and that in its day was the largest in the world is being refurbished in Dover. **Chris Murphy** reports.

TIMELINE

- 1923** Commissioned by the RNLI and built
- 1924** Launched and named
- 1928** Went to aid of French steamer Emile Delmas
- 1950** Sold by RNLI, renamed Lympany
- 1953** Sold again
- 1995** Renamed Nexus
- 2000** Name reverted to William and Kate Johnston
- 2009** Sailed from Ramsgate to Dunkirk with the Little Ships
- 2013** Refitted at Dover harbour

“She is unlike any other boat and there is a tremendous amount of history to go with her – all lifeboats since 1923 are descended from her original design”

Alexander Thompson, on the William and Kate's importance

During its lifetime, two of the lifeboat's coxswains won silver medals for bravery.

The William & Kate even took an award itself from the French government for its work rescuing the French steamer Emile Delmas in the early hours of November 24, 1928.

After retiring, the much-loved vessel became a leisure craft between 1951 and 2000. It was known as Lympany until 1995, when it was renamed the Nexus, finally reverting to its original name when it became a training ship in 2000.

Now the hard task of bringing the vessel back to its former glory has begun in earnest.

"We have been working flat out on the renovations of the hull – this has

needed some extensive repairs and then, of course, repainting," said Mr Collins.

"On the mechanical side, there have been some long jobs. We have replaced the port propshaft and bearing. Even the electrical system needed repair work, and then on the top-side, reproofing to keep water out.

"We have dedicated ourselves to the job and have taken the chance to spend every minute on the work. It has taken just three months so far, but we have achieved so much.

"We hope that the William & Kate will be back in the water within weeks now, so long as the weather is kind to us."

He says they have several local companies to thank for their support, including Stonaco Fabrications, Combined Installations and Bowman Marine Supplies, all from Ramsgate, and Aaron Signs of Thanet, plus the Happy Chef Café in Dover for keeping them fed and watered.

Owner of the ship Mr Thompson told KoS: "I bought her because she is an exceptionally beautiful prototype.

"She is unlike any other boat and there is a tremendous amount of history to go with her – all lifeboats since 1923 are descended from her original design.

"She also served during the Liverpool blitz as well as being instrumental in saving 200 people.

"She has had a very eventful life."

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Summit targets dwindling bee population

ENVIRONMENT chiefs have been stung into action to discuss ways in which Kent's threatened bee population can be protected.

The county council called a summit at Hadlow College's Rural Regeneration Centre to look at how to counter the effects of last year's wet summer and this year's late spring by establishing new hives.

Horticulture and farming is a huge part of Kent's rural economy and its fruit products are largely reliant on bee-pollination, meaning

the continued survival of bees in the county is imperative. However, the bee population is under serious threat.

KCC's deputy cabinet member for rural affairs Sean Holen addressed bee experts to help draw up an action plan.

He said: "We want to encourage the whole community of Kent to support these efforts to protect our bees. These creatures are vital to our well-being, our food, environment and economy."

"Kent County Council's Plan Bee

Summit is calling together experts to make a plan for all of us to help the county be kinder to bees and better for us, too.

"We aim to launch Plan Bee throughout our communities so everyone can start to work for these 'workers'."

Among the speakers at the summit was Nick Sandford, chairman of the Country Land and Business Association; Sam Page, from the Bumblebee Conservation Trust; and bee-keeper Bob Fitzpatrick.

A&E pilot scheme to screen drinking habits of patients

By Chris Murphy

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A GROUNDBREAKING pilot study in which specialist nurses screen patients for alcohol addition when they come to A&E is about to be launched.

Patients will be questioned about how much they drink – and if they fall above the recommended amount they will be offered advice to help them cut down.

The two-year pilot is due to be rolled out at the Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother Hospital in Margate in the new year and, if successful, could be expanded to hospitals across the county.

The project, funded by Kent County Council, will see four alcohol-advice nurses screen patients to see how much they drink.

The authority's director of public health, Meradin Peachey, believes it could help reduce the 9 per cent of Kent's emergency calls that are related to alcohol abuse.

"We are targeting A&E because it is a real hot-spot," she told KoS.

"If you talk to any medical professionals who work in A&E, particularly on a Friday and Saturday night, or in the ambulance service, they will say alcohol is part of what they have to deal with daily.

"They have people who have drunk too much once or people who regularly drink too much with an addiction, and keep having to come in. The idea is everybody is going to be screened as part of an assessment as they go into A&E to identify whether there is moderate drinking, above recommended levels, or whether it is a severe problem.

"These alcohol-liaison nurses can then give intervention and advice."

Patients will be asked a series of questions to establish consumption levels and identify whether they are over the standard weekly limit of 14 units for females or 21 units for males.

A 175ml glass of wine is about two to three units. A pint of beer is about two to three, depending on strength.

Patients will then be offered help from a range of services including detox programmes and counselling sessions, including group work or one-to-one advice.

It is hoped the nurses will stop repeat visits from people who continually misuse alcohol.

Dr Anne Ballinger, from QEOM's alcohol team, believes the nurses will form an important link with local community services for alcohol abuse.

She said: "Currently the situation is if we have a patient admitted to QEOM who is dependent on alcohol or misuses alcohol we can detox them and advise them on recommended limits.

"But then we discharge them and there is no bridge between the hospital and community services. So, in future, the nurses will see these patients within the hospital and offer them advice and psycho-social support, but then instead of just being discharged, those nurses will provide a clinic in between hospital and community to support the patient until any ongoing care in the community takes over."

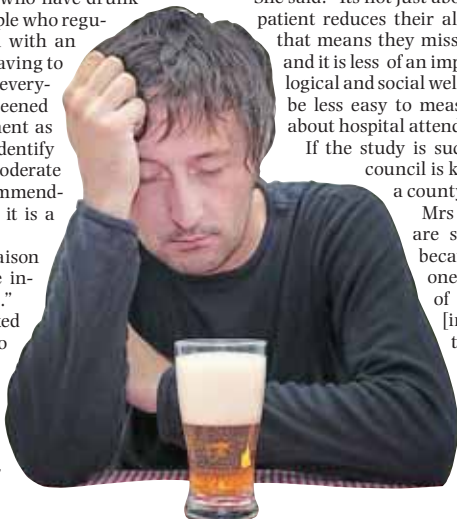
Dr Ballinger, who revealed that on average a staggering 24 per cent of the UK population was thought to misuse alcohol, is hoping the study will help reduce drink-related admissions.

She said: "It's not just about the hospital – if a patient reduces their alcohol consumption, that means they miss fewer days at work and it is less of an impact on their psychological and social well-being. But that will be less easy to measure. It's not purely about hospital attendances."

If the study is successful, the county council is keen to see it become a countywide service.

Mrs Peachey said: "We are starting in Margate because it tends to have one of the highest levels of alcohol admissions [in Kent]. But this is a two-year pilot and if it works we will be rolling it out to other trusts

"This is a more concerted effort to work with people in a systematic way."



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Pub chain in talks to breathe new life into derelict seaside pavilion

After years of neglect, iconic beachfront building could be reborn as a Wetherspoons. By **Marijke Cox**

AN ICONIC building that has stood for more than a century on the beachfront of a Thanet seaside resort has been named among the top 10 most endangered Victorian and Edwardian buildings in the country.

Royal Victoria Pavilion in Ramsgate, once the heart of the seafront as a concert hall and assembly rooms and later a nightclub and casino, has been deserted for five years.

Owned by Thanet District Council and leased to entertainment organisation Rank, a question-mark hovers over its future, although talks have begun that could result in it becoming a J D Wetherspoon pub.

A spokesman from the Victorian Society said the pavilion was picked by members of the public for its top-10 list of most endangered Victorian and Edwardian buildings in England and Wales due to the "years of unsympathetic alterations and lack of action".

Designed by Stanley Davenport Adshead in 1903 – apparently in the space of just a week – and built in just six weeks in the style of an orangery, the Grade II-listed building has commanded central position on the



MAIN ATTRACTION: Previously a nightclub and casino, the Victoria Pavilion has stood empty for the past five years

Ramsgate beachfront for decades.

"Today it stands dilapidated and deserted, having been closed since 2008," a Victorian Society spokesman said. "Its open arcade has been in-filled and much insensitive modernisation has taken place.

"Balconies and decorative crests have gone – and with them the sense of fun the building embodied."

The pavilion in more recent years was a nightclub, first Peggy Sue's and then Fifth Avenue, and a casino.

However, another victim of the spiralling

deprivation of many seaside towns, it eventually closed.

Chris Costelloe, director of the society, said: "The pavilion should be at the heart of Ramsgate's life. It needs sensitive refurbishment and suitable long-term use so generations of locals

and visitors can continue to enjoy it."

Plans are on the table that could see Wetherspoon move into the site, which spans more than 18,700 sq ft.

Thanet District Council is in talks with the pub chain, which could potentially invest in turning the historic building's fortunes.

Whether the public believes a Wetherspoon pub is the way forward, however, remains to be seen.

A council spokesman said the authority was aware of the condition of the building and was working with the tenant to address it.

She said: "The building is demised to Rank – they vacated some years ago but still have the legal estate.

"They have been advertising the lease for several years and we are actively encouraging them in this respect.

"We are pleased to confirm that there is now a proposal under consideration that will ensure the building is brought back into use.

"It is not the council's responsibility to ensure the building is kept in good condition – it is Rank's responsibility to repair the building."

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



SLIPPERY CUSTOMER: The Royal Navy trialled Joseph Woodward's, left, idea of training seal lions to swim toward sources of underwater sound in the hope of detecting WWI German U-boats

Grave tale of sea-lion trainer who took on U-boat threat

An author's chance discovery in a cemetery uncovered the remarkable wartime story of one man's efforts to help the Royal Navy battle the menace of German submarines. **Chris Murphy** reports.

WHEN it came to hunting German submarines, sending a troupe of sea lions in to save the day was one of the more bizarre military plans concocted during the First World War.

But with the unprecedented threat from the enemy's U-boats, it seemed the Admiralty – the authority then in charge of the Royal Navy – would try almost anything.

And, as Michael Hunt explains, it was the brainchild of James Woodward, a senior worker at the aquarium then situated at Ramsgate harbour.

The Thanet author spotted Woodward's grave during a visit to Ramsgate cemetery and, his interest sparked, he decided to delve into his background.

He told KoS: "You never know what you'll come across when wandering around your local graveyard."

Even so, what he found was more surprising that he had envisaged – and even more strange.

Woodward had made great strides in training sea lions at the aquarium, but it was his son Joseph who was to be recognised for his work in developing sea-lion training skills, still used by the military today.

The time was 1916, said Mr Hunt, when the threat to Britain's merchant fleet was growing – and with it the death toll – due to German submarines, known as U-boats.

Official and public worry over the losses was rife, with the Government disguising the true numbers out of concern for national morale.

It was at this point that Joseph Woodward approached Professor WH Bragg of Section II (Submarine & Mine Warfare) of the Admiralty's Board of Invention and Research (BIR) with an idea.

He suggested that, with the help of his brother Fred, their troupe of sea lions and some Government cooperation, they could devise a method of tracking U-boats and so facilitate their destruction.

The BIR had been developing underwater detection systems, using hydrophone and radio technology, and was inundated with suggestions, from both naval and amateur sources, for the better detection and de-

struction of the German subs. The more imaginative included training flocks of seagulls to defecate on periscopes; using swimmers to smash emerging periscopes; and covering the sea with green paint to obscure a periscope's view.

But, as bizarre as it sounded, Woodward's plan of using sea lions to detect U-boats received great interest – and hope – with the Admiralty commissioning him to investigate their effectiveness.

Mr Hunt said the training was largely a matter of exploiting a Pavlovian response – the fulfilment of a required activity being rewarded by, in the case of sea lions, fish.

If a particular sound, sight or situation could become associated in the creatures' minds with the imminent arrival of fish, it would then be attracted in expectation of receiving a reward.

This, together with the sea lion's natural dexterity and relative intelligence, was the principle at the heart of the animals' training.

Initial trials were held in December 1916 at Alexandra Park Baths in Glasgow with three animals called Barker, Jumbo and Toby.

They were taught to swim toward sources of underwater sound and were rewarded with fish.

At the time, naval officers who knew about the trials thought the whole idea slightly mad.

Historical records show a lieutenant had written to his wife: "It will

amuse you to hear that BIR even tried experiments with seals [sic]."

"Apparently they have very sensitive ears – but I think the attraction must have been the lady who performed with them."

More trials followed, however; firstly in a Welsh lake, then the Solent. By this time, American observers had arrived to see the progress of this groundbreaking approach to defence.

But the training sessions took their toll on the animals, with some dying and the results being mixed.

Tracking distances also became difficult in open waters.

Finally, the Admiralty closed the experiment down in 1917.

"Eventually, rather than the efforts of sea lions, it was the introduction of the convoy system, development of rudimentary sonar technology and provision of American destroyers that were to overcome the U-boat threat and hasten the end of the war," said Mr Hunt.

"Even before the end of hostilities, Joseph had returned his animals to their 'legitimate business' and he continued to work with them for several years."

Joseph Woodward died at his house, Everest, in St Mildred's Road, Ramsgate, on December 5, 1945.

His body was cremated at Golders Green crematorium, but some of his ashes were scattered off the east pier at Ramsgate and the remainder put in the family tomb.

“ In 2003, the BBC reported the US Navy's deployment of 'a crack' troupe of sea lions in the Persian Gulf to detect underwater saboteurs and mines ”

Michael Hunt, on how modern armies now use Woodward's idea

His hard work, however, had not been in vain. Unbeknown to him at the time, those US observers had taken his ideas back across the Atlantic and his pioneering work continued in secret.

Mr Hunt said: "Back in 2003, the BBC reported the US Navy's deployment of 'a crack troupe of sea lions' in the Persian Gulf to detect underwater saboteurs and mines."

"It was claimed 'the whiskered warriors are even capable of clamping a floating marker to the legs of an intruder, alerting troops to his position'."

And it seems it is not just sea lions that are used in military operations.

Mr Hunt said: "It was also alleged kamikaze dolphins had been trained to kill for the Soviet navy and had been supplied to Iran."

“ It will amuse you to hear that BIR even tried experiments with seals – apparently they have sensitive ears but I think attraction was lady who performed with them ”

Naval lieutenant's, letter to wife recounting trials using sea lions



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A CLEAR VIEW: For four years Linde Taylor travelled the world to find out the secrets to obtaining a well-balanced life



Contentment can be yours... if you seek it

Hit by a family tragedy, Linde Taylor questioned the way she lived her life, so she quit her job and embarked on writing a book to guide those seeking a change of lifestyle. **Greg Miles** spoke to the new author

LOOKING after yourself should not be too hard a task, but the pressures of modern-day life and everything that comes with it often mean health and well-being get overlooked.

With that in mind, author Linde Taylor has dedicated the last four years to finding out some lifestyle answers, delivered in her debut work *The Book: A Life Manual*.

After the sudden death of her father and a cancer scare, Linde went on a journey of discovery through health, well-being, psychology, nutrition and diet to find out what is truly good for your body and mind.

Importantly, the book's contents are not gospel and she does not intend to preach, but is there as a guide to help those seeking change.

"I've always been interested in alternative medicine and leading a healthy lifestyle, which was influenced by my parents," she said.

"My father was very keen to live healthily and lead a good lifestyle.

"Ten years ago he lost his life suddenly to skin cancer. He wasn't

even a sun-worshipper. He had supposedly lived the sort of healthy lifestyle we believe is right. He didn't drink, other than a glass of wine with his meal, he didn't smoke and he exercised.

"It made me question what it was we were doing wrong.

"Then within a couple of years I

“My father lost his life to skin cancer. He had lived the sort of healthy lifestyle we believe is right - it made me question what we were doing wrong”

had a cancer scare. I thought 'Oh, what's going on?'. I started on my own journey to get better and the knowledge I was gaining proved the catalyst for this book.

"I gave up my job to complete the book, then travelled the world – the UK, America and the Far East.

"It was really to explore not just medicine and nutrition, but the mind – ancient practices like meditation, martial arts like t'ai chi and yoga. It is about foods and how we are getting things wrong."

"While none of what she has published is new information, what it does do is pool together many different ideas in one book, something she wishes she had known about in her younger life.

"It's something we are all pretty bad about – taking time out to question where we should be," said the 49-year-old.

"We only question it when we are ill, or a family member or close friend is ill, and it's a stressful time.

"You realise then that you should have made changes before and implemented them.

"I feel that if I had this knowledge when I was growing up in my teenage years I would have done so many things differently.

"It's not things that would hamper you from progressing but

Continued on page 41 »

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SELSEA 43, driver, own home, N/S, 5ft 8ins, slim, dark hair, green eyes, confident, outgoing, likes most things, seeks N/S male, 40-48. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408405

HAPPY young looking lady, 62, likes socialising, conversation, seeking nice man to share good times with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407383

ROSA, 27yrs, seductive foreign beauty. Seeks no strings discreet fun, any area. Call to hear my desires. ACA. Tel No: 0905 002 1960 Box 408093

DIVORCED female, 66, blue eyes, 5ft 4ins, medium build, blonde hair, seeks male, 65-75 for friendship/companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403275

SUSAN seeking nice male, medium build, 35, easygoing, likes music, nights in. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406779

ANNA, busty mature lady seeks no strings discreet meetings with male any age or location. Tel No: 0905 002 1956 Box 366019

SLIM N/S female, 54, working, reliable, easy going, likes nature, animals, seeks nice male companion, 50-64 for country/seaside walks and meals out. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405745

JACQUELINE 79 widow, easy going, good listener, not slim or neurotic, OHAC, Sevenoaks, lonely would like gentleman's company. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405533

SUSIE, seeks fifty shades of grey with guy any age but must be discreet, call and I will explain why. Tel No: 0905 002 1957 Box 407321

ATTRACTIVE female, 53, N/S, 5ft 8ins, looking for similar male, 50-55 who loves countryside, animals and is easygoing. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405421

AMANDA 44 blonde, blue eyed, very leggy, fun to be with, honest and caring seeking kind, considerate honest gent 74-79 plus. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405315

SLIM tall, elegant, feminine, N/S, solvent lady, young 50's, likes travel, red wine, seeks tall, sincere, Military/professional gent of high calibre. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405707

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JOYCE 83, widow, WLTm gent with GSOH for days out, friendship, companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393067

REBECCA kind, caring, honest, lonely, seeking older gent to wine and dine me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402273

DELILAH 49, likes animals, blonde, blue eyes, seeking older, late 70's who is kind and willing to care about me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403769

59YR old Kent lady, bubbly, large build, dog lover, easygoing, GSOH, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403071

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BLONDE tanned female, trendy, 46, GSOH, likes walks, pubs, nights in, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384852

LYN happy, young looking 72yr old, seeking interesting man, 65 plus to enjoy life with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403011

60YR old black female, sociable, seeks romantic, articulate white male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402523

BLACK beautiful female, 5ft 7ins, likes most things in life, seeks special male for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 398391

CAROLINE 60, 5ft 2ins, likes animals, walks, travel, gardening, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402067

LINDA young 62, smoker, seeking gent, 55-65 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400521

CARIBBEAN female, 50, honest, caring, thoughtful, seeking male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408231

SUE 58, likes walks, meals out, socialising, seeks large male, 6ft plus for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389135

HI I am Sally a single 28yr old female, pretty, size 8-10 with a GSOH and fun to be with looking for similar lonely male for mutual companionship, dates and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407951

CANDY 42, blonde, voluptuous, blue eyes, GSOH, bubbly, seeks older male, 75 plus, kind, caring and honest. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391012

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JULIE big blue eyed blonde size 12 glamorous granny, 40's, likes a good film with a nice wine, walking, meals out, seaside, seeking young at heart male 40-55yrs Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393475

SUSIE fit, friendly, looking for someone to love and look after me, preferably, older, N/S male with own car. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392537

CARING female, 64, blonde hair, blue eyes, 5ft 4ins, medium build, seeks male, 60-70 for friendship, maybe more. Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369593

LISA 44, blonde hair, blue eyes, 5ft 8ins, nice personality, trustworthy, kind, likes cinema, nights in, walks, music, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404751

SUE 65, slim, animal lover, 5ft, blonde, likes socialising, meals out, theatre, countryside, happy go lucky, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405767

ROSS very broadminded smoker looking for lots of fun and laughs with similar genuine, loving, kind male. Single dad welcome, age/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407929

STEPHANIE 29, 5ft 5ins, large built single mum of two, GSOH, loving, honest, bubbly, romantic seeking similar male/dad. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407613

MIRANDA early 60's, sociable, friendly, seeking similar N/S solvent, presentable, easygoing male with GSOH. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394843

BEVERLEY 33, blonde hair, blue eyes, seeks male, 40-45 for walks, karaoke and meals out. Thanet. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375217

DIANE average sort of lady seeking an average sort of man who will love me for who I am, appreciate my life, consider my interests and want to get to know me. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402265

LISA tall slim blonde divorced mum of one, 39yrs OHAC, employed, wicked SOH, WLTm male who like me loves life, for good nights in/out and quality times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402259

SEMI retired N/S ex dancer, many interests, honest, attractive, GSOH, seeks gent, 65 plus to put spark back into life and be soul mate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 378279

TERRI young at heart, fit, caring, N/S, 70's, many interests, Taurus, seeks kind, N/S gent, 65-70 with GSOH to share life and LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390671

I am Eve 31yrs, slim with dark hair and blue eyes looking for a fun loving, genuine male for possible relationship. Single dad welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407601

KIA 42, blonde, blue eyed, shapely, kind, caring, honest, seeks male, 70-80. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391807

LUCY kind caring, honest, fuller figured, blonde, blue eyes, 44, looking for older man, kind, caring and honest. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395805

DENISE attractive single mum, OHAC, likes animals, socialising, cinema, meals in/out, WLTm genuine romantic for possible relationship. Single dad welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407447

JAN 54, petite, seeks male, 48-58 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394382

SOPHIA beautiful, slim, sophisticated, loves living life to the full, enjoys many interests, seeks generous businessman who would appreciate a sensual woman. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407467

JACKIE young looking slim attractive sexy 34yr old lonely girl looking for Mr Right who wants to get to know me and wants a good time doing it. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407205

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CHRIS 52, slim, looking for female, 25-38, slim, 5ft 2ins plus for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408575

DAVE 50, likes holidays, meals out, socialising, easy going, seeks female 40 plus. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408541

ADAM 48, single dad, bored, seeking fun and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408421

DAVE 50, seeks female of similar age for meals out, holidays etc. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408415

RETIRED male, seeks no strings discreet meets with slim-medium build female, any age for adult fun. Midway area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408343

RETIRED male, 66, 6ft 2ins, easy going, GSOH, loyal, loves pets, meals out, life, seeks lady for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407317

MALE 67, professional, fit, 5ft 10ins, medium build, reliable, tactile, likes most things, seeks slim lady, let's go! Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407855

STEVE 61, 4ins, OHAC, seeking relationship, outdoor type, homey, wanting mutual good relationship with sexy woman. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407835

LISA 5ft 2ins, 43, average build plus a few pounds, blonde hair, blue eyes, looking for man for dates. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401421

47YR old female, fun loving, green eyes, likes most things, seeks N/S male, 47-52 with GSOH for nights out, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401287

LONG dark winters days are on their way, seeking male to help female 66 to share life with Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407649

PAULINE pretty professional blonde, great curves, life and soul of any party, seeks tall, well built male with passion for life to get together with. Looks/unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 339087

SUE Attractive girly female with mad sense of humour, curvy, lovely and feminine, WLTm large built manly man to fall in love with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407493

MARIA 30 dark hair/eyed size 12, attractive, outgoing, easily pleased, likes nights in/out, seeking romantic loving guy with GSOH. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407301

KATIE slim racy female, likes cars, horses, dogs looking for tall experienced male who knows how to make me happy and please me. Daytime meets preferable. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407045

ANTHONY 48, athletic, enjoys country walks, seeks youthful female for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407355

71YR old romantic, 6ft, likes life, socialising, reading, strong tea, dogs, smoker but house trained seeks mature lady needing TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407277

TALL friendly, very light hearted, single 58, seeks pretty woman for LTR, mutual selection of activities and choosing how to spend our time. Croydon. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407147

BLACK male, looking for 1-2-1 relationship with laid back, understanding female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406221

YOUNG 70 widower, fit, lonely, 5ft 11ins, 11st, likes drives, walks, DIY, meals out, gardening, smoker, looking for lady to spend life with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405519

DAVE genuine guy, 6ft, black hair, blue eyes, medium build, likes sports, gardening, music, seeks female with GSOH and genuine. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388372

RETIRED male 68, 5ft 8ins, considerate, GSOH, easygoing, likes driving, shopping, most music, seeking lady 60-70 for friendship. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404589

DOG lover short of British slim petite lady to maybe get into 1-2-1 relationship and start something new. Smoker welcome, age immaterial. Tunbridge Wells area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404417

TALL slim male, early 40's, seeks loving female, 29-39 to share the nice things in life. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407065

PROFESSIONAL 45yr old male, one son, bored of the same thing, seeks lady for possible romance. Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386234

CHRIS 68, 5ft 9ins, 13st, frustrated widower, likes country/western music, real ale, gardening, cruises, looking for companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402271

55YR old male, average looks, GSOH, looking to meet similar lady for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408227

JAMIE 6ft 1ins, dark hair, blue eyes, seeks female, 40-50, easy going for no strings fun, nights in. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408051

CANTERBURY mature male, medium build, GSOH, varied interests, sign language interpreter, seeks slim-medium build female, 24-42 for LTR. Single mum welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405697

SEXY fireman, looking for love and fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407883

STEVE 64, active, likes fishing, swimming, karaoke, honest, genuine, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405717

LIGHT hearted 58yr old male, 6ft, blue eyes, slim, lively, active, seeks pretty woman 28-50 for fun times. Croydon. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393567

KEVIN 49, single dad, employed, good cook/laugh, seeks female for fun and good times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402405

FIT fella, full of fun, 58, seeks to find fanciable lady for free and fascinating future for LTR. Find your jar half full. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405857

DAVE 45, 6ft, large build, ginger hair, green eyes, caring, OHAC, likes laugh, cinema, pubs, restaurants, walks, shopping, music, dvds, gardening, animals seeks female of similar age. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405451

35YR old male, 6ft, dark hair, easy going, likes music, films, reading, walks, looking for female for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405941

DISCREET kind man, 48, gentle, loving, genuine, seeking lady. Whistable. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406439

SWANSEA man, 51, 5ft 6ins, slim, seeks slim female for nights in/out, company walks, tall and maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402033

40 something Gemini 5ft 10ins, slim, GSOH, varied, outdoor interests, seeks similar outgoing female, 30-45 for dates and LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404535

MALE 50, GSOH, looking for soul mate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387485

VIC 60's medium build male, active, N/S, likes countryside, DIY, seeks compatible female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405085

51YR old male, dark hair, 6ft, N/S, good looking, likes finer things in life, seeks lady for fun times and TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399867

MIKE from Canterbury 57, medium build, GSOH, varied interests, sign language interpreter, seeks slim female, 21-42 for LTR. Single mum welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379673

PAUL 49 5ft 8ins likes eating/nights in/out seeks loving female for ltr. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404013

PROFESSIONAL romantic male, 44, likes meals out, cinema, music, holidays, seeks female, 30-55 for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 250195

SLIM 67yr old male, fit, loving, 5ft 7ins, blue eyes, independent, sociable, easygoing, enjoys usual, seeks honest lady to share it all with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401245

ALEC 57, likes keep fit, cycling, GSOH, seeks lady, 40 plus for fitness and friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 339463

CANTERBURY cyclist 50's, fit, seeks female of similar age and interests for uncomplicated fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394569

FUN fit, friendly 50yr old male, medium build, seeking female for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400045

DENNIS 53yrs retired police officer living in Kent, WLTm female for mutual fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404201

PROFESSIONAL male, early 40's, OHAC, independent, seeks warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. Children/animals welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404537

OUTGOING professional, fun loving, entertaining male, seeking warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. Animals/children welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405633

ADRIAN young 59, likes travel, sports, seeks fun, attractive lady 40-50's. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399355

SEAMUS 5ft 10ins, black hair, green eyes, average build, likes travel, weekends away, animal lover, varied interests, N/S, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401279

KEVIN 50 6ft average build, kind, caring, GSOH, black hair, hazel eyes, various interests, seeks female 35-55 for friendship/romance. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405087

CHRIS from Folkestone, 68yrs young widower, N/S, 5ft 9ins, OHAC, likes country music, rock n roll, WLTm N/S female with similar interests. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405079

52YR old male, honest, reliable, seeks slim female, 40-48 for friendship, romance, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 377747

WARM honest, caring man, 5ft 9ins, 60's, fit, likes dancing, meals out, seeks romantic encounter with kind lady, 50-70. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388547

MATURE man, enjoys life, socialising, N/S, solvent, OHAC, seeks attractive lady, any age for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388808

MALE 5ft 9ins, N/S, smart appearance, GSOH, nice smile, 60's, likes dancing, singing, art, theatre, seeks female, 60-70 with nice eyes and generous nature. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391790

RONALD 65 plus, 5ft 9ins, slim, sociable, GSOH, tactile, N/S, many interests, seeking lady dance partner to learn ballroom and Latin. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403211


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enhance and help you. The information I've gathered is nothing new – I've not reinvented the wheel – but we don't know where to search for it."

It can be confusing to know what is right or wrong as every day there is new research telling you eating something is bad or good, only for it to be rubbished the next day.

A lot comes down to choice and being open-minded about change. As with any walk of life, a cynical view will not help you move forward.

Things that are a part of our everyday life are not necessarily good for us, says Linde.

"We might be eating fresh fruit and vegetables, but if we're not sourcing it the right way it has a detrimental effect on our body. You can eat the healthiest food but not benefit nutritionally from it," she said.

"In certain cultures they will have 20 or 30 different types of fruit and vegetables they eat, but we are struggling to even get our five a day.

"I place a lot of importance on things being organic because of the chemicals used.

"As soon as you pick a fruit or harvest crops, we often find we don't get it on a table until a week later.

"The media makes it very confusing – one minute they will report something is OK and the next it is not. Hopefully, I've managed to unravel things and the way I've tried to present it is there for people to find out for themselves."

Linde's worldwide research was funded by selling her home after she quit her job. Each piece of research had a knock-on effect as she delved



HEALTHY READING:
The Book: A Life Manual

deeper into what makes us contented.

"I found one thing led on to another – it was a natural progression. It wasn't just arranging a meeting – it led from researching

“There are no Top 10 tips. We are misleading ourselves if we think if I do this I'll avoid cancer or age-related illness”

one thing and finding another. I felt it was important to do it first-hand and look at how things affect you.

"One thing that was quite profound is it's all very well reading

about it – it is another thing doing it.

"Another aspect was the importance of regularity. I explored areas quite deeply and thoroughly, like the products we use from personal-hygiene products to washing powders and electrical equipment."

One question that routinely comes up when discussing her book is what is the best thing someone can do to improve.

There is not an exact answer to that question as it all depends what you are looking for, she says.

"There are no Top 10 tips. We are misleading ourselves if we think if I do this or that I will avoid cancer or age-related illness. We are all at different stages and have knowledge from our own families as to different

things that can affect us.

"You need to look at your lifestyle and take all these things into consideration – like your medicine, for instance. Rather than having a headache tablet, try to have an understanding of how that affects your body. There are so many things you can do to prevent it and stop it.

"For a start, there's the power of the mind and how you can utilise it in a powerful way.

"Water is also a big thing – how we source it, for instance. When we eat we usually drink water or another beverage. We don't realise it dilutes the digestive enzymes in the body so we can't digest the food properly.

"If it doesn't digest it properly, it has a toxic effect and if that happens day after day it can have a

detrimental effect.

"It's recommended not to drink for an hour after you've eaten. It does also depend on the volume you've eaten."

In Linde's professional life she worked in the human resources department at Kent County Council, while her last job, before quitting to go on her travels, was working as a PA to a businessman.

Her last employment in particular made her realise how much effect a busy working life has on your well-being, which is why she believes her book would be beneficial to many living in the rat race.

"I was with the company more than 10 years and was a PA to a very successful businessman in the area," she said. "I got involved in many aspects of business, like arranging his meetings. It was a real full-on job, 24/7.

"It did affect me, being available 24/7. It is about recognising that and getting the right balance."

Although Linde is not a professional expert on the subject, her book and alternative medicines have been given credit by doctors.

She said: "Interestingly, more and more doctors are integrating the natural alternative medicine with the conventional, which supports it. I've had quite a good response to it.

"We are certainly moving that way. If you're aware of alternative practices and go to the NHS with an ailment, you can perhaps go to natural nutritionists, herbalists, have acupuncture, or try the Alexander technique."

Clearly, all life is out there.

■ **The Book: A Life Manual**, by Linde Taylor, is available as an e-book via iBook for £5.99.

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Stage is set for original Seeker's

From chart-topper to show-stopper, Lyn Paul has lived the high life, partying with rock legends and singing

LYN Paul, former singer with 70s group The New Seekers, had never seen the film and stage show Cabaret, but all it took was an endorsement from legendary director Bill Kenwright to get her starring in a production of it with Pop Idol-winner Will Young.

Paul's professional friendship has stood since Kenwright "took a gamble" on her when casting for the musical Blood Brothers in 1997.

More than a decade on, she was still starring in the role of Mrs Johnstone, having taken to television dramas in the intervening periods, and is widely regarded as the finest actress to have played the part of the matriarch in Willy Russell's classic.

The 64-year-old is heading to Tunbridge Wells with Cabaret next month and is enjoying the experience of playing Fraulein Schneider, with co-star Young taking the lead as Emcee.

"It [the show] has been going for seven or eight weeks now," she said.

"It's getting a good reception everywhere. The first couple of weeks were a nightmare – you're flying by the seat of your pants, nobody knew what they were doing.

"The rehearsal period was so short for me personally because I had never

done it before. I had never seen the show before and didn't know anything about it.

"I had been doing Blood Brothers for 17 years on and off with Bill Kenwright. He emailed me and said I should put myself forward for it.

"I have been very lucky, actually, that there has only been one show I haven't enjoyed – that was Taboo with Boy George.

"It was the mix of people. I'm not a great lover of Boy George – I don't find him particularly easy to work with. When egos get in the way, you have problems.

"Bill Kenwright changed my life. I wrote to him asking for a role in Blood Brothers and two weeks later I was on stage rehearsing. It was a big gamble for him because he didn't know whether I could act.

"I always wanted to act. If you're singing and doing a ballad – and doing it properly – you're acting anyway.

"You can't compare panto to Blood Brothers and I really wanted to do some straight acting. I didn't find it difficult at all."

Despite her initial lack of experience, it was a smooth

NEW ROLE:

Lyn Paul plays part of Fraulein Schneider in the musical Cabaret



transition from her previous career in the music world.

In The New Seekers she enjoyed massive success with a string of hits including I'd Like To Teach The World To Sing. That song, adapted from the Coca-Cola TV advert, sold more than 20 million copies worldwide.

Hollywood stardom followed, including parties

“What irks me is they take credit for things that happened to us. We were the line-up that had the hits. I take umbrage with interviews when they say they did this and that, when they didn't”

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latest musical act

for a US president... and the show goes on. **Greg Miles** reports.

with Led Zeppelin and performing for Richard Nixon's inauguration as US president.

She said: "We [the band] went along with it because we wanted to make a living and wanted everything that went with it.

"I was only 21 when the Seekers started. We were manipulated and did as we were told, but as it happened huge success came our way. It's managed to keep my career going.

"I did get very lonely. I'm a huge family person and didn't enjoy the experience quite as much as I should have done. We had apartments in Hollywood and thousands of fans. We were the first mixed-gender group, way before Abba."

One memory she has of the high life involves another band who enjoyed astronomical fame, although that had seemingly not filtered through to her at the time.

"We had a party one day for all the English groups in Hollywood, and they all came over, including Herman's Hermits," she said.

"Then this big guy came in and said he was checking the joint out. He said 'I've got Led Zeppelin downstairs and they want to come in'. I ended up calling Jimmy Page

Led all night – I had no idea who they were. That's pretty bizarre, thinking about it now."

In the height of 'flower power' The New Seekers struck a chord with millions of adoring fans and their public profile was one of innocence because of their songs.

But that does not paint a true picture as far as Paul is concerned, although she would not divulge how wild things got.

"Absolutely not," she said. "There's so much that's happened in my life, I should write a book about how not to do it. We had quite interesting lives on the road. We had a good time, we were young people. We drank and boogied, as I like to call it."

After their chart success and second place in the Eurovision Song Contest of 1972 with Beg, Steal Or Borrow, the band split in 1974, with Paul going on to a successful solo career working with, among others, Dionne Warwick and Liza Minnelli.

"We split up and decided to go our own ways and I had already made arrangements to go solo anyway," she said. "We were brought together so young and felt we had gone as far as we could and were all trying to pull in different directions.

"When we first started out we were on £50 a week and £100 a week at

the highest point. We didn't make very much money out of the group, but we got the rest of our careers."

It was not the end of The New Seekers, though. Fellow band member Paul Layton recruited Paul two years later with a new line-up.

Since then, the band have changed considerably, but they are still together and have released compilations – something that has not gone down well with Paul.

"I think it's been well documented I'm not very happy about it," she said.

"I don't mind anybody earning a living. What irks me terribly is they take credit for things that happened to us. We were the line-up that had the hits. I take umbrage with interviews when they say they did this and that, when they didn't.

"I have heard some of the records and really don't want to be associated with it. They have brought out CDs with pictures of us on it, but it's a new record with synthesizers and new voices. We never used synthesizers – they weren't around then."

■ Cabaret is at the Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells, from Tuesday to Saturday, November 12-16. Tickets from £24.50. Visit www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk or phone 01892 530613.

Time Out Top Ten

1 Britannia Theatre, Chatham
Friday, November 1
Phone: 0844 8586656

Jongleurs Comedy Club: Enjoy two hours of comedy and an after-party disco. Starts 7pm. Tickets £13.50.

2 Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells
Saturday, November 2
Phone: 01892 530613

Slade and Sweet: Two glam-rock legends in live performance. Tickets £27. Show starts 7.30pm.

3 The Tower Theatre, Shorncliffe
Thursday, October 31
Phone: 01303 260330

Paul Lacey's Basie Express: The sounds of Count Basie. Starts 8.30pm. Tickets £10.

4 Theatre Royal Margate
Friday, November 1
Phone: 01843 292795
www.theatreroyalmargate.com

Eric and Little Ern: Ian Ashpitel and Jonty Stephens share the wit of Morecambe and Wise. Tickets £16.

5 The Orchard, Dartford
Sunday, November 3
Phone: 01322 220000
www.orchardtheatre.co.uk

The Hollies: All the hits from the 1960s Mersey-beat legends. Tickets £30. Show starts 7.30pm.

6 Hazlitt, Maidstone
Friday, November 8
Phone: 01622 758611
www.hazlittartscentre.co.uk

Sounds of the Glenn Miller Era: Enjoy the big-band sound with the Nick Ross Orchestra. Tickets £18.

7 Quarterhouse, Folkestone
Friday, November 1
Phone: 01303 858500
www.quarterhouse.co.uk

Pigeon Detectives: Leeds indie-rockers are touring with new album material. Tickets £14.

8 The Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury
Wednesday, October 30
www.marlowetheatre.com

Wasted: A play about life, love and losing your mind by poet Kate Tempest. Tickets £12.

9 Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone
Saturday, November 2
www.atgigtickets.com

The Drifters: Hear all the hits from the 60 years of the group in a two-hour show. Tickets £28.90.

10 Trinity Theatre, Tunbridge Wells
Friday, November 8
www.trinitytheatre.net

As You Like It: Adaptation of William Shakespeare's classic tale of love in exile. Tickets £14.

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From fireworks to ghostly goings-on

Are you ready for Halloween and Bonfire Night? To help you, here is a selection of events from around the county during the next fortnight. With it being half-term, there are also plenty of activities for youngsters to enjoy, from listening to spooky ghost stories to fancy-dress. **Greg Miles** is your guide.

Fireworks

■ Where Leeds Castle

When Saturday and Sunday, November 9-10. Gates open 2pm, fireworks start 5.30pm.

What Fireworks set to a theme of fire, with moving imagery and projections on to the castle. Live music, fair-ground rides, fire-breathing, juggling and more.

Tickets £18.50 for adults, £12 for children under 16 and under-4s free if reserved at the time of booking. Visit www.leeds-castle.com or phone 01622 880008.

■ Where Kent Life, Maidstone

When Saturday, November 2. Gates open 4pm, bonfire 7.15pm, fireworks 7.45pm.

What Fire-breathers, fireworks set to music, face-painting, fancy-dress, water-zorbing, funfair and bar.

Tickets Adults £10, concessions £9, children £8. Visit www.kentlife.org.uk or phone 01622 763936.

■ Where The Hop Farm, Paddock Wood

When Saturday (open from 3pm, displays at 6.30pm and 9pm) and Sunday (open from 2pm, bonfire 5pm, display at 6pm), November 2-3.



What Funfair, fireworks, food and drink and live band on Saturday night.

Tickets Advanced discounted tickets £12.50, children £8.50, seniors (60+) £10.50, family of two adults

and two children £37.50. Visit the website at www.thehopfarm.co.uk or phone 01622 872068.

■ Where Merton Farm, Canterbury

When Saturday, November 2. Gates open 4.30pm, bonfire 5.30pm, fireworks 6.30pm

What Family-friendly fireworks display, food and drink and children's activities.

Tickets On the gate, adults £10, children £5 – or 50 per cent off when booked at www.fireworksonthefarm.co.uk.

■ Where Edenbridge high street and recreation ground

When Saturday, November 2. Procession 6.30pm, fireworks 8.30pm.

What Floats, torchlight procession, three bands, two Guys (including the celebrity Guy) and fireworks display.

Tickets In advance from Edenbridge Book Shop: adults £6, children £3. On the gate, adults £7 and children £3. Visit the website at www.edenbridgebonfire.co.uk.

Halloween activities

■ Where Groombridge Place, near Tunbridge Wells

When From Saturday, October 26,

until Sunday, November 3. Open 9.30am-5.30pm (last entry 4pm).

What Daily activities including arts trail, take-home craft workshops, game shows, Nerf-gun arena and creepy-crawly sessions with a snake and a tarantula.

Tickets Adults £9.95, senior citizens £8.45, children (three to 12 years) £8.45, family tickets (two adults and two children) £33.95. For details, visit www.groombridgeplace.com.

■ Where Powell-Cotton Museum, Quex Park, Birchington

When Monday, October 28, until Friday, November 1, 3.30pm until 5pm.

What Journey to find the White Lady, create a lantern to guide you and hear the scary tales as you explore the grounds.

Tickets Children £5, up to one accompanying adult free. Phone 01843 842168 or visit www.quexamuseum.org for more information.

■ Where Hever Castle

When Saturday, October 26, until Sunday, November 3. Gardens open from 10.30am, castle opens midday. Closes 6pm.

What Listen to a creepy tale, take part in Halloween fancy-dress, make

a bat mask and decorate a ghoulish cupcake.

Tickets Adults £15, seniors £12.75, children £8.50, family ticket £38.50. Phone 01732 865224 or visit www.hevercastle.co.uk.

■ Where Kent and East Sussex Railway, Tenterden

When Monday, October 28, until Friday, November 1; times vary.

What Enjoy the spooky night train from Tenterden to Northiam, fireworks display and pumpkin-carving.

Tickets Night train tickets on October 31 and November 1, £15. Departing 6.30pm. Visit www.kesr.org.uk or phone 01580 765155.

■ Where Maidstone Museum and Bently Art Gallery

When Thursday, October 31, to Friday, November 1, from 7pm-8.30am.

What Spend a spooky night at the museum with Egyptian-themed fun, crafts, costumes and stories. Evening snacks and breakfast included.

Tickets Priced at £30; phone 01622 602838 or visit www.museum.maidstone.gov.uk.

■ For a full list of fireworks events around the county, visit our website www.kentnews.co.uk.

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Heat up some delicious innards this Halloween

Carve and then cook your pumpkin, says celebrity chef **Rosemary Shrager**

HALLOWEEN can be an immensely fun time of year for all the family, but there is often one victim in all the festivities... the poor old pumpkin.

They are hacked to pieces for lanterns, with their innards and seeds discarded wastefully when there is so much more to be done with the fruit.

The flesh is low in calories but high in fibre, meaning it is one of the good guys when it comes to healthy eating, but it is overlooked for all but one month of the year.

Research has shown pumpkins are plentiful in the antioxidant beta-carotene, while the seeds are also incredibly nutritious, being a good source of protein, iron and vitamin B.



There are plenty of things to be done with the left-overs, from soups to risottos, while the seeds are easily stored and great toasted and sprinkled on a variety of dishes.

Celebrity chef Rosemary Shrager, who this summer opened her new cookery school in Tunbridge Wells, has been busy

this week carving a pumpkin for charity that will be auctioned at Budgens of Whitstable on Saturday at 11am to raise money for Kent Air Ambulance.

The 61-year-old, who was a favourite in reality TV show *I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here!* feels there should be more emphasis on eating seasonally.

"What we used to do was use things in season, which is really important," she said. "Root vegetables are in at this time of year. Turnips are great, too, if you add a bit of sugar."

"I think the way people cook is going to get simpler. I really believe we're going to go back to that."

"It will turn a corner – I'm certainly doing that myself."

"People are more aware now where their meat comes from, and

other things, and they are asking more questions. People are becoming more sensible – it's catching on."

The enormous food-waste figures hit the headlines this week, with an estimated 32 per cent of what Tesco customers buy going in the bin. There are sure to be many bins filled with perfectly useful pumpkin leftovers this coming week to add to that.

"I have a big thing about food-waste. If they have got all this food, they ought to do something with it," said Shrager. "People might say it's out of date, but surely there's something you can do."

"We always use the seeds from the pumpkins – you wash and dry them and use them. You can caramelise them, use as a garnish, in bread – all sorts of things."

SIMPLE PUMPKIN SOUP

- Heat two tablespoons of olive oil in a large saucepan. Gently cook two finely-chopped onions for five minutes 'til soft but not coloured.
- Add 1kg peeled, deseeded and chopped pumpkin to the pan, then carry on cooking for eight to 10 minutes, stirring occasionally until it starts to soften and turn golden.
- Pour 700ml vegetable stock into the pan and season. Bring to the boil, then simmer for 10 minutes until the squash is very soft.
- Pour in a 140ml pot of double cream, bring back to the boil, purée with a blender.
- To give your soup a velvety edge, push it through a fine sieve.



CARVING TIPS

- Use a template to get your design inch-perfect.
- Go double-sided and carve another pattern on the back to create even more shadows.
- Try shaving parts of the pumpkin rather than cutting all the way through for a two-tone effect.
- Paint the pumpkin so it looks just as good in the day.
- Try using an apple-corer for a simple polka-dot style.

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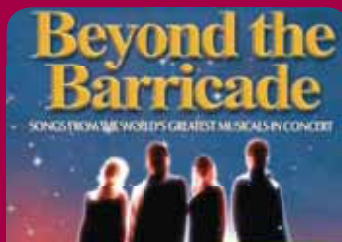
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Finalists invite you to enjoy fine dining

WE are spoilt for choice in the Garden of England when it comes to fine dining and there are plenty of signs to suggest that situation will continue as restaurateurs continue to be excited about the future.

Whether it is for a special treat or a celebratory occasion, it is nice to go out and feel truly wined and dined in luxurious surroundings.

In an ever-changing market, restaurants are also having to move with the times. This has seen prices drop, with customers able to get the same experience for less spend in some places.

That is a tactic being employed by Indian venue The Ambrette in Margate.

Chef Dev Biswal feels the venue has coped well in the wake of the recession.

"We saw it coming, so we repositioned ourselves," he said. "We changed it from high-end fine dining to a mid-fine dining experience, so it's an affordable fine-dining experience."

"It's about standing out by offering people value for money."

Taking on board consumer feedback is always a good idea, too.

"It's important to listen to customers and meet their demands," he said. "If people don't want to spend one and a half hours at dinner



and would rather come and go quickly, we fine-tune towards that. It's the same with prices: if people are not prepared to spend £50 on three courses we review ourselves."

Culpeppers restaurant at Chilton Park in Lenham, near Maidstone, naturally attracts customers through the hotel, but it has a healthy number of outside

bookings, too.

Hotel manager Gareth Davies has seen a big change in the lunchtime trends.

"Being a hotel, it's a lot easier to attract people as we offer accommodation as well. We are doing relatively well as a venue," he said. "I think it's far more of a treat and a special event for people. There is a definite shift from lunchtime into afternoon teas, where it is far less formal dining."

"People look to the more casual dining element in the form of afternoon tea. It would be £30 for lunch, and afternoon tea is £20.

People feel they are working harder and longer and they like to treat themselves."

A wider audience has also been apparent at the venue.

"The future is relatively strong. The demographic is certainly changing," he said. "When I first started in restaurants and hotels, it was the older generation who were the main clients. It's far more of a mix these days."

"No one wants a stuffy level of service any more. It's attentive as opposed to wearing white gloves and standing in the corner of the room."

Popular television programme Downtown Abbey is also playing its part.

"We find that it is mentioned quite often in reviews – people want that sort of experience," said Mr Davies.

The general manager at Thackeray's in Tunbridge Wells, Gary Beach, feels that quality is the most important factor to consider.

"People look for quality rather than a tag that says fine dining," he said. "We have been established 11 years now and have built up a local clientele. You need to be proactive in terms of menu and ingredients, too."

Thackeray's, The Ambrette, and Culpeppers at Chilton Park are finalists in the Kent Life and Kent on Sunday Food and Drink Awards in the Restaurant of the Year category.

The winner will be announced on Thursday, November 14.



IN THE POT: Clockwise from left, Culpeppers, The Ambrette and Thackerays... who will win?

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Location: New Romney

Reviewed by **DAVID MAIRS**

GOOD things. Indian restaurants. Almost as crucial to our social existence as pubs, they take away much of the debate as to where we should go, especially when meeting up with people we haven't seen for a while.

I assume that everyone likes curries. I could, of course, be wrong about this, with many 'guests' simply too polite or even timid to say no. That, though, is their concern and in any case it is our job to educate them.

Suffice to say, Friday evening brought such an occasion – the chance to say hallo to a friend returning briefly from a new, if temporary, life in Dubai.

This in itself piled on the pressure as the United Arab Emirates city, he assured me, is home to the finest curries he has eaten.

Pressure or not, I was not to be swayed, especially after a glance at the disaster emerging from the oven in the kitchen of his rented cottage (how difficult can frozen pizza be?).

It was time to get out – and fast! We were in Dymchurch, no place to

be of any evening, let alone Friday, and so it was away to New Romney and, specifically, Romney Spice. Or "the legendary tandoori restaurant", as it apparently prefers to be known.

Its high-street location making it easy enough to find, on walking in we were instantly impressed by its ambience and décor.

All low beams and low lighting, there was a warmth to the place enhanced rather than ruined by the orange walls.

Straight into the popadoms with chutneys and chopped vegetables – no problems there, with the quality of the onions and tomatoes as ever giving the first indication of what was to follow. Crisp and fresh... first test passed.

Dubai Man elected not to have a starter, but I chose a first-for-me in salmon tikka – and mightily taken with it I was, too. Tender and delicious, it would probably be my main on any future visit.

In the event, the main I did have, handi king prawn ("a Rajastani medium spicy dish cooked with home made special sauce, chopped



onion, green pepper and tomato") was largely forgettable. One of the chef's recommendations it might have been, but it's not one I'll be bothering with again.

Not awful, you understand, just not worth sacrificing another potentially splendid dish for.

Dubai Man kept it simple with a lamb rogan and probably made the better choice.

Mushroom rice (me), plain rice (him) and three chapatis, along with a couple of pints of lager, all contributed to a final bill of £52.45 – pretty much par for the course.

A coffee liqueur on the house was a nice touch. Job done. Home.

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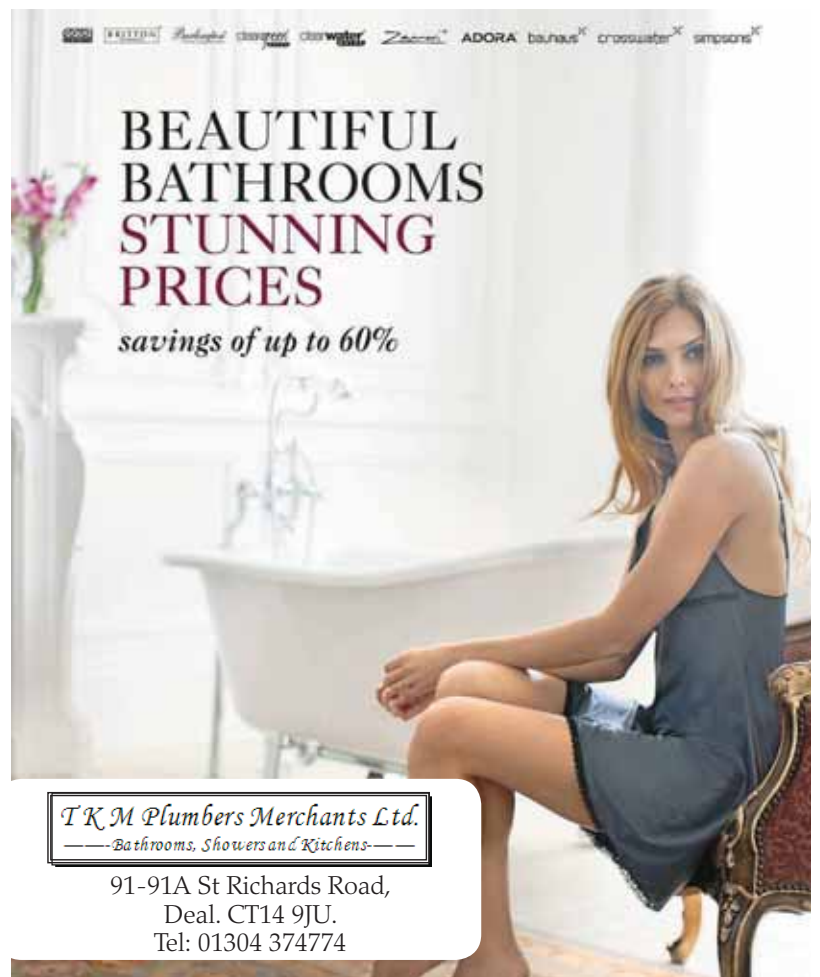
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Immigrants don't bring jobs to Kent

In KoS (13.10), Marijke Cox asks whether the flood of workers from Bulgaria and Romania to Kent is going to be as dramatic and expensive as many would have us believe.

Anyone who is unemployed or can't afford to buy a home might find this question academic. We should not be letting in any more people to compete for our limited supply of jobs and houses.

Bulgaria and Romania are two of the poorest countries in Europe and our generous welfare system is bound to attract many economic migrants from these countries.

The article quotes Paul Carter's report, which plays down the impact and highlights the supposed benefits, but don't forget: he is the Tory leader of Kent County Council.

His party claims it will reduce immigration but, because it can't stop it from any EU country, he is instead pretending that the impact will be small and the benefits great.

The tax and National Insurance paid by a migrant worker will never match the Jobseeker's Allowance and housing benefit paid to the British person whose job he has taken, so where is the benefit?

Migrant workers and their families will also be entitled to welfare, health care and schooling despite having never paid a penny into the system, while some of our older people are denied certain treatments because they are 'too expensive'. Never mind that they have a lifetime of National Insurance behind them.

The article quotes further biased comment from Robert McCrea, chief executive of Migrant Help.

This organisation's website says it is committed to supporting migrants and failed asylum-seekers. It's not, therefore, surprising he complains about "politicians working with the media to get headlines out about migrants taking our homes and jobs".

The migrants don't bring the houses or jobs with them, so it's obvious they must be reducing the supply of houses and jobs here.

We need to take control of our own borders.

Mike Wardle, Chatham

Build homes for our elderly people

No one needs to sell their home to pay for care in old age.

Local authorities should build estates for the elderly. Each property would be independent, with residents

LETTER OF THE WEEK



Support small stores by shopping in them

I was fascinated to read the article (6.10) on The Pantiles.

Tunbridge Wells is not alone in facing the problems of revitalising a special part of town. It seems to me the issue runs across the UK and needs a national approach.

The solution does not necessarily involve Government throwing huge sums of money at one or two towns, though. It is so much simpler and involves small businesses working together to tell the rest of us what they offer.

So, what next? We need to shout about how great the little businesses are. And there is the problem. Publicity is expensive and the little guys are just not in the same league as the multi-million-pound organisations seen on our screens every day.

The small businesses need your help – that's you, everyone reading this letter. The time has come to support your local shops. First of all, forget about liking them online. That sort of action never sold a sausage or put a penny in a pay-packet. Go out and buy from the local butcher, baker, delicatessen, fishmonger and greengrocer. With a little forward planning, it does not take any

longer to go from one shop to another than it does to meander the aisles of the supermarket.

Secondly, log on to our website and recommend your shop, restaurant, café, tearoom... Established in 2011, www.mealsinfields.co.uk has grown to provide a directory of small shops up and down the country where the traditions of excellent produce and customer service are upheld.

Let's get a really inclusive directory that can be used as the resource of choice wherever you wander in the UK. After all, if everyone in every town and village lets us know where they buy or eat local food, we will have that local knowledge nationally for all to share so that we can always support small businesses.

The joy of our country is the variety, diversity and personality of the individual towns, which is generated by the different small businesses populating them.

It's time that we got together, customers and shopkeepers, and fought against the faceless superstores. There is power in numbers. Vote with your feet.

Sharon Eason, Seasoned Solutions Limited

paying household expenses like everyone else. To acquire one, people would exchange their existing home. The authority would then sell this to

pay for the new one, and any profit would be returned to those involved. Each estate would comprise properties and an administration

block for on-call nursing staff, who would work solely on each site.

When each property becomes vacant, the local authority would buy it back from the inheritors and repeat the process. This way no one loses their inheritance.

Roger Arnold, Herne Bay

Travel is too much for live exports

Thank you for printing an article about the live-animal export trade (13.10). I believe this trade to be barbaric and inhumane.

I do not think it is possible to transport live animals on long journeys humanely. A lot can happen in the five-hour journey from Northamptonshire (where many are loaded) to Dover. The stench coming from the lorries and the state the sheep are in bears witness to this.

In the past three months, two animal-transporters in Europe were involved in accidents that resulted in the lorries burning. Do we really want this to be their fate?

On September 4, a lorry full of sheep was refused boarding at Dover and forced to return to its source.

On September 6, lorries were 'trapped' on the Dartford Crossing, one of them the refused lorry from September 4, presumably carrying the same sheep.

The animals should be slaughtered in this country and exported 'on the hook'. At least we can guarantee them a short journey and a 'humane' death.

A E Fillies, Dover

Farmers do not benefit from trade

Marijke Cox wrote a comprehensive article on live exports, but there is one aspect needing clarification.

This trade is not essential for UK farmers and does not benefit our economy. Statistics show that, of all farm animals reared for slaughter, only three in every 1,000 are exported live, creating a net loss to industry and the UK taxpayer.

The primary businesses making profits are the Dutch ferry-operator and the haulage companies, which are almost exclusively Dutch or Irish.

If the exported animals were slaughtered, processed and transported by UK operators, our economy would benefit, but with live exports the cost of Defra inspections, veterinary attendance and policing of the protests considerably outweighs any benefit to UK farmers.

Reg Bell, Thanet Against Live Exports

KOS 10 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

As part of our commitment to providing the best service to you, we have produced our 10 guiding principles which tie in with our parent company Archant's overall mission statement.

Archant's mission statement is: "We bring together motivated buyers and sellers through the creation of unique and compelling content and community expertise." This is summed up in the strapline 'Inspiring Communities'.

The way KoS will create our unique and compelling content is to follow these 10 principles: **Kent on Sunday will:**

- 1) Be available in every postcode in Kent.
- 2) Be fair, accurate and balanced.
- 3) Be written in clear, concise English.
- 4) Not be overly sensational.
- 5) Have a sense of humour.
- 6) Have an easily understood division between

news, comment and advertising.

- 7) Seek to celebrate as well as constructively criticise.
- 8) Highlight topical issues of concern to people living in the county.
- 9) Spotlight individual cases which raise broader concerns.
- 10) Champion causes that it feels are important to the well-being of the county and its people.



Rainbow at Ramsgate harbour

by **Leigh Thomas**
from Chatham

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Enterprise cash enables firms to expand for less

Tiger scheme allows businesses to access low-cost loans, discovers **Joe Bill**

TWO businesses from Medway are among the first in the county to be backed financially by the TIGER loan fund to the tune of £250,000.

The Tiger – Thames Gateway Innovation, Growth and Enterprise – is a regional growth fund of £20 million offering low-cost loans allowing businesses to invest in new products and services.

The scheme, launched in April 2013, is operated by the Thames Gateway Kent Partnership with council partners Medway, Gravesham, Swale, Dartford, Thurrock and Kent to help smaller companies take their next step in development.

The Food Machinery Company, an industrial food-processing business from St Mary Hoo, has won approval for its plans to build a new factory and has received a £197,000 Tiger loan.

The business, which has more than 33 years of experience in supplying machinery for the food-processing and packaging industry, will use the cash to expand its operations and grow out of its existing site at Fenn Corner.

A second Hoo company – Transnordic Ltd – based at Vicarage Lane, has been successful in its application for a £35,000 loan to buy new equipment.



FUNDING: Michael Baxter, right, founder of Transnordic Ltd, and managing director Richard Sawyer; the firm is making the most of Tiger

The company has been trading since 1970, specialising in the design, development and servicing of components and systems for the hydraulics industry and is hoping that this loan will allow it to in-

crease productivity and lower costs.

Richard Sawyer, managing director at Transnordic, said: "We are extremely pleased to have succeeded with our Tiger loan application. This gives us the funds to invest in

our business much more rapidly than would otherwise have been possible."

Medway Council's portfolio holder for strategic development and economic growth, Jane Chitty, is delighted that the two firms have taken up the funding opportunity and is hoping their growth will boost the area's economy.

She said: "Both Transnordic and the Food Machinery Company have a fantastic track record here in Medway.

"With the Tiger loan they will now be able take their businesses to the next level.

"Medway businesses have been quick off the block to recognise the benefits of the Tiger scheme, with a further 12 Medway firms through to the final application stage, so this, hopefully, will be just the start.

"This fund offers a real opportunity for successful businesses looking to base themselves in Medway and the rest of Kent or looking for financial support to expand their operations.

"It has the potential to provide the kind of investment needed to create more skilled jobs – jobs that will play such a vital role in growing the local economy and its wider regeneration."

Training, courses & careers

Calls for classroom creativity as Lego looks to the future

A SCHOOL in Kent has taken part in a pilot study put together by toy company Lego to bring new teaching skills into the classroom.

The study, developed by Lego Education, suggests students should cultivate skills such as creative problem-solving and critical thinking for the workplace.

Newstead Wood School for Girls in Orpington was one of 100 educational sites that took part in the study, which comes ahead of the Cabinet Office review into employment, education and training provisions available for 16- to 24-year olds. Teachers were surveyed on the role of creativity and playful learning within the

curriculum as well as acquiring 21st-century skills as defined by the Department of Education and Child Development.

The results suggested that a hands-on, creative approach boosted student engagement and helped to prepare students for the future workplace.

The head of science and engineering at Newstead Wood School, Gary Nelson, believes that fostering skills students' need for the future requires a more creative approach. He said: "We've just got so used to the National Curriculum that there is no creativity in it now. There are opportunities for creativity and independent



LEGO EDUCATION: Building blocks for the future workplace

learning, Lego Education meets the needs of a real task. Students have to find a solution to a problem and physically do it as well as learning to use a flow chart to program it."

Since 1980, LEGO Education has provided hands-on, curriculum-based resources for teachers and students worldwide. President

Jacob Kragh said: "As the role of teachers is undergoing a shift in response to a more global, complex and competitive workplace, our study shows that teaching has become more than just imparting knowledge.

"We believe that much more can and should be done to make subjects relevant and engaging."

College pupil has star credentials

A MIDKENT College student has snapped third place in the international Astronomy Photographer of the Year competition.

Samuel Copley, 16, from Hoo, was highly commended in his age group for his stunning image of the Great Nebula, a dazzling cloud of gas and dust south of Orion's Belt.

The competition attracted more than 1,400 entrants from 49 countries, with Samuel's photo being published in a commemorative book.

Record number apply at jobs fair

BLUEWATER'S events facility Glow hosted a recruitment fair that received a record 5,000 applicants to the jobs on show.

Organised by the JobCentre's The Learning Shop, there were more than 600 jobs on offer from 50 of Bluewater's retailers.

In addition, experts provided advice to guests on key skills such as CV-writing, interview techniques and presentation.

» What is your business doing to help our young people? If you have a good news story, email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk or call 01303 817100.

Flying Fish manufacturing times improve thanks to help from advice service

A HOVERCRAFT-manufacturer from Sandwich has hailed the Government-funded Manufacturing Advisory Service a success after tripling turnover.

The support service was designed by the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills and is aimed at helping manufacturing businesses grow and develop.

At an MAS showcase, the hovercraft-building company Flying Fish was held up as a shining example of how grant-funding and meetings with MAS advisor Ian Pateman could help a business.

Flying Fish managing director Emma Pullen worked with a MAS-registered consultant to make a series of operational improvements. She said: "Our problem has never been getting the sales, but we needed to reduce our lead times of six to eight weeks.

"MAS allowed us to step back a bit from the day-to-day running of the business and take a long, hard look at how we do things and focus on essential improvements in terms of staff, production output and quality."

During a visit to the MAS showcase, business secretary Vince Cable met Mrs Pullen and was impressed by the company results, including turnover, which has almost tripled, with production increasing by 50 per cent. In 2012 the company produced 70 hovercraft and by the

end of this year the figure will have increased to 105 units.

Mrs Pullen said: "I didn't really have much faith in managerial practices and strategies before I worked with MAS, but the advice and hands-on help has been absolutely invaluable to our business. Before I used to say 'Well, I can't afford it' – now I say 'You can't afford not to do it'."

Flying Fish is Europe's largest manufacturer of recreational, cruising and light utility craft and was formed in 2001 by hovercraft-designer Ivan Pullen. The company is established as almost the 'industry standard' in recreational hovercraft design. Four varying models of small hovercraft are produced from its factory in Sandwich.

MAS Advisor Ian Pateman said: "Flying Fish has an interesting product, but they were experiencing supply/demand issues.

"While essentially this is a nice problem to have, if it is not addressed it can hamper growth and lead to unhappy customers. After the initial meetings to assess their needs they chose the most suitable registered consultant for the job and we were able to move forward quickly.

"The results speak for themselves and we're proud to showcase Flying Fish as a great example of how MAS can work with small to medium-sized manufacturing businesses."



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Plan ahead to make pension changes easy to implement

Chief executive of the International Association of Book-keepers **Malcolm Trotter**, based at Kings Hill, looks at pensions auto-enrolment, when it needs to be implemented and what it means for your firm

IT is one of the most fundamental changes in pensions legislation for many years, but what exactly is auto-enrolment and how could it affect business the length and breadth of Kent?

Under the new scheme, employers must automatically enrol certain staff members into a good-quality pension scheme and make contributions towards it.

Up until now, employers have not been required to put any pension arrangements in place, and if such a scheme does exist, employees can choose whether to join it or not.

Businesses need to plan and prepare for auto-enrolment, including any additional costs by way of employer pension contributions, which will have to be budgeted for.

The staging date, or deadline, by which a business must implement a scheme is determined by the PAYE scheme it operates.

You can check the staging date for your business by typing in the relevant PAYE reference number into the online tool at www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk/employers/tools/staging-date.aspx.

Employers must auto-enrol their eligible employees within four months of the relevant staging date.

However, large numbers of employers have similar deadlines and there is a risk of log-jams around these peaks, so businesses should consider an earlier implementation period.

It may be that not all employees in any given businesses will be eligible for auto-enrolment.

Those who you must auto-enrol include any working, or usually working, in the UK, who are aged between 22 and the state pension age, earning at least the threshold figure (currently £9,440pa) and who are not already members of a qualifying pension scheme.

You should also consider offering non-eligible employees the opportunity to join the pension scheme and record that they have been given the chance to do so if that is the case.

Employers should consider taking professional advice to ensure that the arrangements they have in place are sufficient to meet the requirements of auto-enrolment or whether they could be improved upon.

If you have no scheme, or your current one does not meet what is required, then professional advisers can help you select and put one in place. Alternatively, you can choose to access



ADVICE OF THE EXPERT: Malcolm Trotter

the new NEST (National Employment Savings Trust) for your employees.

It is essential that appropriate and timely communication takes place with employees, explaining the changes and their implications. Specifically, employees must not be encouraged to opt out, although they can choose to do so.

The Pensions Regulator is providing template communications for employers, and professional advice might also help you with this.

Employers will need to inform their pension-provider and whoever operates their payroll of all the relevant details of employees who have been auto-enrolled.

Businesses also need to register online with the Pensions Regulator within four months of the staging date.

And so to the crucial question: How much will you need to contribute to the pensions of employees?

In the run-up to October 2018, the minimum level of contributions will gradually be increased to 3 per cent.

Where non-eligible employees opt to join the scheme, then you will also be required to make contributions for them.



Cross-Channel trains hit summer passenger high

By Joe Bill

joe.bill@archant.co.uk

THE high-speed passenger service running between Kent and mainland Europe has recorded huge growth in the third quarter of 2013.

Eurostar has reported an increase in both passenger numbers and sales revenue compared with the same period in 2012.

The news comes little more than a week after the train company announced plans to introduce direct services to Amsterdam.

Sales revenues were up 10 per cent year on year to £207 million for the period of July to September, while passenger numbers also increased by 5 per cent to 2.7 million.

The growth has come amid increasing signs that the economic recovery is beginning to take hold in the county, highlighted by last week's positive Kent Property Market Report.

The news of increased passenger numbers looks even more positive considering that during the same time last year people were travelling to the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Eurostar chief executive Nicolas Petrovic said: "Business traveller volumes have been growing steadily and this quarter's performance continues that. As a bell-weather for the health of the wider UK economy, the strength of the corporate travel market gives us confidence in the business outlook to the year end."

Over the same period the leisure and travel market has proved similarly robust, with sales revenues up 9 per cent year on year.

Eurostar chiefs believe the success of their new Route du Soleil service direct to Provence has helped figures. The route, a trial that operated for eight weeks earlier in the summer, has had a positive impact on travellers' perceptions of connecting to the French regions.

Passengers originating beyond Eurostar's core European destinations before using the company for part of their journey have seen the amount of tickets sold up 13 per cent.

A company spokesman said: "The halo effect of the Olympics has seen a boom in international travellers choosing to visit the city following last year's summer in the spotlight."

"With increasing numbers of international visitors viewing a trip by Eurostar between London and either Paris and Brussels as an essential part of their European itinerary, passenger numbers have seen a significant uplift."

Eurostar's plans to launch direct services between London and Amsterdam – in partnership with the Dutch railways – are also exciting their chief executive. Services are expected to commence in December 2016, with journey times of about four hours.

"We have entered an exciting new chapter in our expansion plans," said Mr Petrovic.

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Break down costs to avoid any confusion

Our recent two-part article on conveyancing sparked a lot of interest from potential property-buyers, but some people are still finding themselves confused about the costs involved in purchasing a home. Solicitor **Edward Foster** offers some help.



Edward Foster is senior partner at FostersLaw. If you have a question relating to this or any other matter, simply 'Ask Ed' by emailing him at asked@fosters-law.co.uk

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IT may sound confusing, but home-buying doesn't have as many hidden costs as you would imagine.

The cost of conveyancing can essentially be divided into two parts: the legal fee, which is the actual fee the solicitor charges for doing the work, and the disbursements, which are the expenses incurred on your behalf and are paid to third parties, such as Land Registry fees, Stamp Duty Land Tax if applicable and searches.

There are very clear rules as to what is a legal fee and what is a disbursement, so make sure there are no additional 'legal fees' tucked away in the disbursements.

I can only speak for my firm, but we will always provide a clear and transparent quote before you

instruct us. This will include a breakdown of all fees, including the standard disbursements for your transaction based on the information we have at the time.

By way of example, at Fosters Law our legal conveyancing fees start at £345 for first-time buyers and go up from there in clear fixed brackets – any disbursements are then added to the top.

Fees and disbursements will only ever change if something comes to light during the conveyancing process that was unforeseen at the time the quote was given. A good solicitor will contact you before incurring additional expenses on your behalf.

On top of the legal fees there are other costs that you need to consider:

Mortgage administration fee

Charged by most mortgage companies, this is basically a processing cost and can vary from a few hundred pounds to a few thousand.

It should be made clear to you at the outset of arranging your mortgage

Mortgage valuation fee

Your property is independently valued – you pay for it. This is normally a few hundred pounds.

Moving costs

Whether you do this yourself to save money or employ a professional will depend on the amount of furniture you have and how much stress you want on completion day.

And no one wants stress at any time, do they?

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By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk



ROCK OF AGES: Ford's Mondeo has undergone significant changes since it was introduced to the motoring world way back in 1993, top left

Ford Mondeo

Price:	from £15,995
Driving appeal:	★★★★★
Image:	★★★★
Space:	★★★★★
Value:	★★★★★
Running costs:	★★★★
How green?:	★★★
Best rival:	BMW 3 Series

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FORD is celebrating 20 years and 1.4 million sales of the Mondeo in the UK.

During that time the car has advanced the technology for airbags and general safety, traction control, adaptive cruise-control and Ford's small Ecoboost turbocharged petrol engines.

The original car arrived in 1993, pleasing both media and market, rocketing to No 1 and picking up the coveted European Car of the Year prize in 1994 for good measure.

Even Jeremy Clarkson – already the *enfant terrible* of the motoring world – had grudging praise: "It's a good car... I may have to stab myself in the foot, but I think at the moment it's probably best in class."

Two decades and three generations on and the Mondeo is still a leader in the way it drives and rides but has been eclipsed in the sales charts.

Its sheer ubiquity used to be a criticism yet annual volumes are now less than a fifth of the original car's 1994 sales, and half that of the more premium BMW 3 Series, which somehow escapes being labelled as common.

To be fair, though, the whole so-called UK family-car market segment has been in decline for years.

Other view...

the Petrolhead

Great car to drive but has absolutely no status or image, particularly against German prestige rivals. Will it celebrate another 20 years? No!

the Woman Driver

I'm not even sure I know what one of these looks like nowadays. I remember the first Mondeo – that was an excellent car – but since then, err...

the Eco-warrior

I don't agree with big cars, but if you must have one then some Mondeo models are among the most eco-friendly you can buy

Competition from SUVs (sports utility vehicles) and MPVs (multi-purpose vehicles) and the trend for downsizing has clobbered sales in what was the biggest-selling car sector in the 1990s.

Far from trying to help the Mondeo stem this tide, Ford has helped undermine it with the excellent Focus – the favoured route for former Mondeo customers who are downsizing – and MPVs like the S-Max and C-Max.

Adding insult to injury, Ford also made later-generation Mondeos put on weight to help fill the void left after dropping its director-level Scorpio model in 1999.

Nevertheless, Ford has ensured the Mondeo has maintained an excellence created by the 1993 original.

It spent a whopping £3 billion at the time to create the Mondeo, partly because – as its name implied – the US car giant wanted to create a 'world car' to appeal to markets across the globe, delivering economies of scale and huge marketing prestige.

The company had also been scared witless; it had foisted a string of mediocre cars on to the market that the media had been happy to rubbish, while arch-rival General Motors had

produced a brilliant front-wheel-drive Opel Vectra/Vauxhall Cavalier targeting Ford's distinctly average and outmoded rear-driven Mondeo predecessor, the Sierra.

Keeping the Sierra at or near No 1 in the face of this had forced Ford to exert every fibre of its marketing muscle, prompting allegations of hefty pre-registration through its dealerships.

Its replacement put down a marker that has seen mediocrity virtually banished from Ford's mindset – at least in Europe, though memories linger of that Ford Fiesta spin-off, the Fusion. By the time the second-generation Mondeo arrived in 2000, the car had become a symbol of the times, with 'Mondeo Man' coined as a label for a certain class of voter.

By the time its replacement arrived in 2007, though, the Mondeo's upmarket delivery and aspirations were becoming clear, underlined by a cameo appearance in the James Bond film *Casino Royale*.

Unfortunately, its appearance in the modern motor market is an increasingly fleeting one, but the Mondeo still deserves applause – Ford set the bar high for the Mondeo and it has rarely dropped.

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Model shown is Auris Touring Sports Icon 1.8 VVT-i Hybrid 5 door £21,495. Prices correct at time of going to press. *0% APR Representative only available on new retail orders of New Auris (excluding Active) when ordered between 1st October and 2nd December 2013 and registered and financed through Toyota Financial Services, Great Burgh, Burgh Heath, Epsom, Surrey KT18 5UZ before 31st March 2014 on a 3 year AccessToyota (PCP) plan with 0-34% deposit. *Payment shown is based on a 3 year AccessToyota contract with £4,901.80 customer deposit and £1000 Finance deposit allowance and Guaranteed Future Value/Optional Final Payment. Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status to over 18s. Other finance offers are available but cannot be used in conjunction with this offer. Excess miles over 30,000 charged at 8p per mile. Toyota Centres are independent of Toyota Financial Services. Terms and conditions apply. Affordable finance through AccessToyota. 5 year/100,000 mile manufacturer warranty subject to terms and conditions. Auris Range Official Fuel Consumption Figures in mpg (l/100km): Urban 34.9 (8.1) - 80.7 (3.5), Extra Urban 54.3 (5.2) - 83.1 (3.4), Combined 45.6 (6.2) - 78.5 (3.6). CO₂ Emissions 143g/km - 84g/km. The mpg figures quoted are sourced from official EU-regulated test results obtained through laboratory testing, are provided for comparability purposes and may not reflect your actual driving experience.



GOING LARGE: Toyota's Auris Touring Sports Hybrid manages to carry two powertrains – petrol and electric – while offering big space



Hybrid space technology from Toyota

Masterly packaging by Japanese carmaker Toyota means medium-car-sector buyers have a viable hybrid estate option that isn't penalised for space, says **Steve Loader**

ESTATE must be a dirty word in the car industry.

We now have a cloud of euphemisms such as Touring, Avant, Tourer, ST (sports tourer) and now, from Toyota's midsize Auris line-up, Touring Sports.

Its elegant profile has flowed smoothly from the lines of a much-buffed-up new-generation British-built Auris hatchback line-up, which is a league above the previous car's dull 'Corolla by another name' looks.

It's also the first-ever estate in an Auris range that also includes the UK's first hybrid estate in its sector, with the really clever bit being how it manages to be just as capacious as its conventional sisters.

Toyota has worked hard lately to ensure that carrying two powertrains – petrol and electric – plus batteries does not impinge on the interior versatility of hybrid models.

In this case, it is impressive...

Despite rakish looks to go with its racy name, the Auris Touring Sports – conventional or hybrid – has a total load capacity of 1,628 litres with rear seats folded, trouncing key estate rivals like the VW Golf (1,620), Ford Focus (1,502) and Vauxhall Astra (1,550).

But while it looks and packs as well, if not better than the opposition, the hybrid falls behind in the driving experience.

With its CVT (continuously variable transmission) automatic

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gearbox, which causes the engine to rev erratically at times, and rather remote steering, there is little to warm the driver's heart except to glance at the eco display and see how low he or she can get the average fuel consumption.

And while you won't get much joy from running completely in EV mode (electric only), which seemed to last little beyond pulling off our drive – which ain't no stately home – it is good to see the car cruising close to its official combined cycle 70.6mpg much of the time without much driver effort.

Mind you, I'm still not convinced that hybrids – with extra onboard weight from two powertrains and a battery pack – are the best option for motorway high-milers, who should find an equivalent-size eco-diesel posting better average consumption.

Leaving aside the hybrid option, though and, weighing the pros and cons of the Auris simply as an estate, I rate it highly.

Apart from the hybrid's gearbox-induced engine noise, the cabin is

Toyota Auris Touring Sports Excel Hybrid

Price:	£22,845
Driving appeal:	★★
Image:	★★★★★
Space:	★★★★★
Value:	★★★★
Running costs:	★★★★★
Reliability:	★★★★★
How green?:	★★★★★
Road tax:	Zero
Best rival:	Ford Focus

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It's a little wonder

HYUNDAI'S next i10 city car may be new-generation in more than one sense of the word when it arrives in January, priced from £8,345.

For the Korean marque has aimed to make a small car with bigger car refinement through special NVH (noise, vibration and harshness) engineering, involving much use of high-tensile steel.

Its predecessor – launched five years ago – really launched Hyundai as a major brand in the UK.



BMW's dream car

REGARDLESS of far more expensive open-top cars, BMW's new 4 Series Convertible should become the No 1 dream car for UK buyers when it arrives next March – just in time for spring.

It carries over the folding hard-top introduced on the final 3 Series crop-top – its legendary predecessor – and will be offered from launch with a choice of two petrol engines or one diesel and be priced from £36,675.



Multipacked MiTo

ALFA ROMEO has facelifted its distinctive MiTo supermini.

Priced from £14,350, the Italian sporting brand has resisted the temptation to make major tweaks to the much-admired cosmetics of the car but has upgraded the cabin and boosted its infotainment, while the sporty yet economical TwinAir turbocharged petrol engine has had a boost, too – from 85bhp to 105bhp – to deliver performance more in keeping with the MiTo's image and Alfa's heritage.

Week ending October 27, 2013 **61**



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On the road price	£14,495	per mile (+VAT)	14.9p
Optional final		Duration of	
payment of	£4,845	agreement	36 months
Amount of credit	£10,418.50	Annual fixed interest rate	3.55%
Total payable	£16,085.50	Representative APR	6.9%

All new Hyundai include



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3 door**

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FINANCE EXAMPLE

41 monthly payments of	£92.70	Annual mileage	10,000
Deposit (inc. £2,350 part-ex)	£4,011	Excess mileage charge	
On the road price	£8,345	per mile (+VAT)	14.9p
1st monthly payment of	£261.70	Duration of	
Optional final payment of	£3,113	agreement	42 months
Amount of credit	£4,334	Annual fixed interest rate	10.4%
Total payable	£11,186.10	APR	20.7%

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Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai range: Urban 25.2 (11.2) - 68.9 (4.1), Extra Urban 38.7 (7.3) - 80.7 (3.5), Combined 32.1 (8.8) - 76.3 (3.7), CO₂ Emissions 231 - 97 g/km.

Van sales quickening economy's pulse rate

By Steve Loader

NOBODY wanted to be first to risk mentioning green shoots of recovery, so the Government leapt from caution to gung-ho optimism about the economy in a matter of weeks.

But the van market could have told the politicians a while ago how things were looking up, having seen new registrations increase steadily while values on used examples hardened – sure signs confidence and demand are increasing.

For van sales are a good way to check the pulse of Britain's economy,

a point underlined by market expert Tegy McCabe, sales manager at the Vanwise van supermarket at Park Wood, Maidstone.

He said: "It's changed over the past few months. Where customers were worried about taking on a new van without guaranteed work and contracts six to eight months ahead, they're now happy to com-



mit. Rather than run their old vehicle into the ground and changing at the last second, they feel positive enough to change and once 'Van man' has made up his mind he wants a van tomorrow – time is money.

"Demand is for vehicles across the board – big, small – and from the top end like the VW Caddy down to the cheapest. French models are the bargains – OK, you're lucky if you get a colour choice of white... white or maybe silver and they often have few frills, but Van Man knows

BUSY: Small vans like the Fiat Fiorino are popular with owner drivers and big organisations alike

they do the job."

He added that Vanwise itself was a sign of the market upturn. Having set up just a year ago on the site of Park Wood's former Autoplanet car supermarket, it plans to double in size soon from stocking some 90 vehicles to 200.

It's all a far cry from when the recession tsunami hit us, washing away 60 per cent of sector volume in 2009 versus 2008.

Since then, we've had many false dawns for both the economy and this crucial market, but the gloom cannot continue, especially as some existing vehicles are very tatty and need upgrading.



BUILDER'S FRIEND: Compact dropside models like this rugged Toyota Dyna could be a boon as construction work picks up after signs the UK economy could be making a recovery

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FLEXIBILITY: Fiat's Doblo Work Up, left, is a compact pick-up truck that can be loaded on three sides, while panel vans like Peugeot's Boxer flagship can be adapted or converted for various jobs

Benefits of better-packaged boxes

VANS will always be load-lugging boxes at heart, but the packaging has changed dramatically over the past decade.

Operators have seen economy, efficiency and flexibility soar, while drivers have enjoyed better performance, refinement and safety.

Many of the latter points come from car-derived designs. The trend started with smaller models derived from superminis or family

hatchbacks; blank out the rear windows and the driver gets all the benefits of the equivalent car-owner, including air-con and a decent sound system

The philosophy then migrated to larger vans, sometimes derived from the platforms of popular cars, too, even if the van body is bespoke.

Load capacities have also grown, varying from as little as three cubic metres for a car-derived hatchback,

used by couriers or as a small company's runabout, right up to a 17 cubic-metre delivery van.

Access has improved, too. Many larger vans have low floors in the driving compartment for easy access and most above supermini class now come with a sliding door as standard to aid loading, and many buyers take the option of a second 'slider'.

There is now a choice usually of side-opening twin rear doors or a

high-lift tailgate as well, while cab doors generally have a reduced opening angle, making it easy for a busy driver to grab the handle to close the door and also avoid it swinging wide and hitting something.

Another recent phenomenon is the 'Dualiner'-type vehicle that can seat five and still carry a decent cargo, ideal for companies needing to send a crew on the road plus all their gear, or the owner-operator or tradesman

who needs a vehicle to carry his kit during the week and the family at weekends.

It's not just the vans themselves that are changing but the way they are sold; with advantageous lease deals and buying plans, a new van offers the latest comfort levels and lowest operating costs from the latest powertrains, and will make you and new customers feel good about the business.

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Model shown: PROACE L1H1 1200kg 2.0D 128 DIN hp basic price £19,795.83 excluding VAT including on the road charges. Offer excludes metallic paint at £412.50 excluding VAT. *PROACE contract hire offer available to business users only. Available on new sales of model shown when ordered, registered and financed between 1st October and 2nd December 2013 through Toyota Financial Services. Advertised rental is based on a 3 year non maintained contract hire agreement at 10,000 miles per annum with an initial rental of £1,794+VAT. Excess mileage charges apply. Other finance offers are available but cannot be used in conjunction with this offer. Terms and conditions apply. Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status to over 18s only. Toyota Centres are independent of Toyota Financial Services, Great Burgh, Burgh Heath, Epsom, Surrey KT18 5UZ. Subject to availability. PROACE Range. Official Fuel Consumption Figures in mpg (l/100km): Urban 34.4 (8.2) - 37.2 (7.6) Extra Urban 42.8 (6.6) - 48.7 (5.8) Combined 39.8 (7.1) - 44.1 (6.4). CO₂ Emissions 186g/km - 168g/km. The mpg figures quoted are sourced from official EU-regulated test results. These are provided for comparability purposes and may not reflect your actual driving experience.

White Van Man White Van Ma'am



Mythbusters

Contrary to the more traditional image, vans don't all come in white, as these three leading market contenders testify:

- Renault's big-selling Trafic panel van (below)
- Toyota's new midsize model – the Proace (left)
- VW's smart, driver-pleasing Caddy (far left)

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

WHITE Van Man has a mate – White Van Ma'am.

The stereotypical driver of the white van speeding past on the motorway used to be someone with discarded drinks bottles and a copy of The Sun – open at page three – stuffed behind the windscreen, looking slightly more attractive than his navigator, a Staffordshire bull terrier.

It now appears that this type of driver is increasingly likely to be far more discerning... and also a woman.

A survey by AXA Business

Insurance showed he or she is likely to be an opera-lover (43 per cent) and probably hasn't been booked for a traffic offence in 10 years (60 per cent), despite more than half spending at least 10 hours a week behind the wheel.

Not surprisingly, the poll showed that most van-drivers object to the White Van man Stereotype: well under half (39 per cent) reckoned it was accurate, and only 8 per cent owned up to being that man.

In any case, a third of drivers surveyed were women, which might or might not explain why cooking and gardening were high on the list of hobbies, although some pastimes

go with the job – 82 per cent regularly go to a football match or watch live on TV... hopefully not while driving.

AA Insurance also researched the increasing number of female van-drivers and found many were owner-operators, with female florists being a top category for this new driving class, dubbed 'vantrepeneurs'.

The findings revealed that modern van features such as air-con, CD/MP3 sound systems, power-assisted steering and sa-nav, plus better-arranged and car-like cabs have made women feel happier about encroaching on what used to be a male and chauvinistic world.



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BUSINESS USERS ONLY. *Prices shown exclude VAT and delivery to dealer charges (Kangoo £595 and Trafic £605), vehicle excise duty (£220) and first registration fee (£55). Kangoo van normal basic price £13,000 and Trafic Sport van £20,450. §Contract hire rates exclude VAT and delivery costs. Contract Hire Finance is available subject to status and conditions. Prices valid subject to no change in manufacturer's prices, residual values or interest rates. Non-maintenance Contract Hire based on 10,000 miles per annum and 48 months (6+47 rental). Excess mileage charges apply. E and OE. Contract Hire Finance provided by Arval UK Limited, t/a Renault Business Finance, Windmill Hill, Swindon SN5 6PE. Renault Business Finance reserves the right to remove these offers. Offers available on new vans when ordered by 31 December 2013. †Warranty applies to new vehicles up to a period of 4 years or 100,000 miles, whichever comes first (first 2 years unlimited mileage). Renault Assistance Roadside Cover is provided in association with the AA. Cover from months 0 to 36 includes assistance at the roadside and home, national recovery, onward travel and European cover. Cover from months 37 to 48 includes Roadside and Homestart (including a local tow to an authorised Renault dealer). The provider of this cover is the Automobile Association Limited. Please refer to participating dealer for details.



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£27,322 - £29,528 per annum - 41 hours per week (including split shifts and weekends) - Term time only, plus 2 weeks *

*For this role there will also be up to a maximum of two weeks for the school's respite care provision if required, for which extra payment would be paid.

For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, practical, flexible and responsible with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children.

We are committed to sustainability and preserving the environment and therefore encourage applications by email, so for an application form and information pack please email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk or you may call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine).

Please note that CVs will not be considered.

The closing date for all applications is 5pm Friday 8th November 2013.



www.bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

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Experience working with young adults and/or families impacted by substance misuse would be advantageous.

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Contact 01233-664393
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We are looking for enthusiastic, experienced, highly motivated endoscopy staff that have a flexible approach to working. Hours will include evenings and weekends.

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To discuss these opportunities and benefits please contact either:

Dennis Sutton, Theatre Liaison Manager 07833 237881
 OR Mary Guarnieri, Matron 01843 234252

For job description and application form please contact:

Mandy Oliver

East Kent Medical Services Ltd

The Spencer Private Hospital

2nd Floor, Atina House, Bench Street, Dover, Kent CT16 1JH

Telephone: 01304 245946 Fax: 01304 207320

E-mail: mandy.oliver@spencerhospitals.com

Alternatively you can download an application form and job description from our website www.spencerprivathospitals.com

Closing date for applications 15th November 2013

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You need to have a driving licence to apply for the PCV Technician position and it would also be advantageous to have a PCV or HGV driving licence too.

Recently reviewed rates of pay, and overtime available.

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How to Apply

All applications will be dealt with in strict confidence. Please send your detailed CV and a covering letter stating your current salary and experience to:

Andy Bates, Operations Manager
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 195 Chalkwell Road, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1BJ

Or email: Andy.Bates@chalkwell.co.uk for an application form

To advertise in this section **01303 817150**

Sub-Editor ARCHANT KOS MEDIA

Location – Ashford Office

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The successful candidate will have an eye for detail and be prepared to take responsibility for producing error-free pages in print and online. He or she will share our desire for the highest editorial standards. He or she will be competent in InDesign. Innovative ideas and a flair for design are essential.

Proficiency in Photoshop and Illustrator would be an advantage although training can be given.

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To apply please complete the application form at www.archant.co.uk/vacancies and email it together with a covering letter of no more than 200 words to the Editor, Chris Britcher at chris.britcher@archant.co.uk. Please put Sub-Editor in the subject line. If you would like to know more about the post please call Chief Sub-Editor Dave Hobday on 01303 817021.

The closing date for applications is Friday, 15 November.



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LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 – SECTION 116

STOPPING UP OF LAND AT SCOTT ROAD, TONBRIDGE

I AM GIVING NOTICE THAT the Kent County Council as Highway Authority for the County of Kent propose to make an application to the Magistrates sitting at Maidstone Magistrates Court on 29 November 2013 at 10:00 for an Order under Section 116 of the Highways Act 1980 to extinguish highway rights on the grounds that they are unnecessary on land at Scott Road, Tonbridge as edged in red on the plan on deposit.

A copy of the draft order and the plan referred to are on deposit, and can be seen during normal office hours, at the main reception of The Kent County Council at Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XQ.

Any person to whom this Notice has been given or who uses the highway specified or who would be aggrieved by the making of the Order may appear before the Magistrates' Court to raise an objection or make a representation on the application. Any person intending to appear before the Magistrate's Court at the hearing of the application is requested to inform the County Council by email to hayley.church@kent.gov.uk, or by telephone on 01622 696063 before 19 November 2013 quoting referencing number LS/21/103071/440.

John Burr, Director of Highways and Transportation

Traffic Schemes & Member Highway Fund,
Ashford Highway Depot, Henwood Industrial Estate, Javelin Way, Ashford, Kent TN24 8AD

Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 11 OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

Proposed development at: Rear of no. 1, Marsham Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1EW

Take notice that application is being made by:

The Duncan & Graham Partnership
Dr John Thomas

For planning permission to:

Construction of new dwelling to rear of existing doctors surgery

Local planning authority to whom the application is being submitted: Maidstone Borough Council, King Street, Maidstone ME15 6JQ

Any owner of the land or tenant who wishes to make representations about this application, should write to the council within 21 days of the date of this notice.

Signed: Dr John Thomas

Date: 24th October 2013

Statement of owner's rights: The grant of planning permission does not affect owner's rights to retain or dispose of their property, unless there is some provision to the contrary in an agreement or lease.

Statement of agricultural tenants' rights: The grant of planning permission for non-agricultural development may affect agricultural tenants' security of tenure.

'Owner' means a person having a freehold interest or a leasehold interest the unexpired term of which is not less than seven years.

'Tenant' means a tenant of an agricultural holding any part of which is comprised in the land.

LICENSING ACT 2003:

Application for Premises Licence

Take notice that Leonidas Andreou has made an application in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003 for a premises licence for Site J4 Chatham Maritime, Dickens World, Leviathan Way ME4 4LL.

The application is to: sell Alcohol on the Premises

This application has been made to Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham Kent, ME4 4TR. Full details of the application and plans can be viewed at Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham Kent, ME4 4TR during normal hours of business.

Any interested party who wishes to make a representation about this application should do so in writing to Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham Kent, ME4 4TR or by sending an email to licensing@medway.gov.uk. No later than 20th November 2013

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application which, upon conviction, carries a maximum fine of £5,000.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PREMISES LICENCE (LICENSING ACT 2003)

Notice is hereby given that

Caroline Oliver has applied to Ashford Borough Council for the GRANT OF PREMISES LICENCE for a licence to sell alcohol for the premises The Bakehouse situated at 8-10 High Street, Biddenden, Kent TN27 8AH

A register of licensing applications can be viewed at the Licensing Section, Ashford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1PL 01233 330721 by appointment.

Any person wishing to submit representations to this application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by: 15/11/2013

Dated this 6th day of November 2013

Signed Caroline Oliver

The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Panel and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations must relate to one or more of the four Licensing Objectives: THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND DISORDER, PUBLIC SAFETY, THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE AND THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM HARM.

It is an offence, liable on conviction to a fine up to level 5 on the standard scale (£5000), Under Section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003 to make a false statement in or in connection with this application.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PREMISES LICENCE (LICENSING ACT 2003)

Notice is hereby given that

Holly Sophia Robinson and David Harris has applied to Ashford Borough Council for the GRANT OF PREMISES LICENCE for the Playing of live and recorded music & the sale of alcohol for consumption on or off the premises. Also the provision of late night refreshment and the sale of alcohol until 0400hrs for the premises Bode's Limited situated at 7 New Street, Ashford, TN24 8TN

A register of licensing applications can be viewed at the Licensing Section, Ashford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1PL 01233 330721 by appointment.

Any person wishing to submit representations to this application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by: 15/11/2013

Dated this 18th day of October 2013

Signed H.S. Robinson D. Harris

The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Panel and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations must relate to one or more of the four Licensing Objectives: THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND DISORDER, PUBLIC SAFETY, THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE AND THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM HARM.

It is an offence, liable on conviction to a fine up to level 5 on the standard scale (£5000), Under Section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003 to make a false statement in or in connection with this application.

To advertise in this section 01303 817056

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Swale Borough Council as Local Planning Authority has received the following applications which are being advertised to ascertain the views of persons living near the sites and other interested parties. The proposed developments relate to one or more of the following:

1. The site of the application is within/affecting a designated Conservation Area (Section 73) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
2. The proposed development may affect the Listed Building or its setting.
3. The application is for a Major Development.
4. The application would affect a right of way to which Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) applies.

REPRESENTATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 11 NOVEMBER 2013.

SW/13/129: Junction visibility improvement; compensatory garden extension; relocation and extension of fencing; relocation of timber shed and provision of rear access – 1 Dully Road, TONGE; **REASON 4**

SW/13/1204: Variation of condition 1 of NK/8/63/326 to allow 10 month occupancy of caravans – Seaview Holiday Park, Warden Bay Road, LEYS DOWN; **REASON 3**

SW/13/1243 & SW/13/1244: Change of use from office to wine bar on the ground floor and staff accommodation of first floor with no building works – Baltic House, Standard Quay, Abbey Road, FAVERSHAM; **REASONS 1, 2 & 4**

SW/13/1253: New signage and lighting – The Old Wine Vaults, 75 Preston Street, FAVERSHAM; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/13/1254: New signage and lighting – The Old Wine Vaults, 75 Preston Street, FAVERSHAM; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/13/1269: Proposed detached 4 bedroom house with attached double garage and associated car parking and garages apron – The Old Vicarage, The Street, LYNSTED; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/13/1273 & SW/13/1274: The installation of two 1.8m microwave dishes at a height of 58m on the existing 110m tower, associated cabling and the installation of a small equipment cabin at ground level – MOD Dunkirk, Courtenay Road, DUNKIRK; **REASON 2**

SW/13/1275: Removal of the existing air conditioning and ventilation unit located on the roof with a new air conditioning and transfer unit in a similar location – Natwest, 13 Market Place, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 1**

SW/12/1278 & SW/13/1279: Re-cladding of part of the main house and remove existing modern sand/cement panels, conversion of part of modern annex into a bedroom and addition of rooflights. Conversion of Granary from garden store to home office – Nash's Farmhouse, Luddenham Road, LUDDENHAM; **REASON 2**

SW/13/1280: Demolition of single-storey, corrugated roof former social club building – Victoria Working Mens Club & Institute, Broadway, SHEERNESS; **REASON 1**

Particulars of the proposal(s) can be obtained from Planning Services, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, where copies of the applications and all documents submitted with them may be inspected during office hours; any representations should be made in writing to this address.

James Freeman
Head of Planning

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010 (AS AMENDED)

KCC/CA/0306/2013 - Proposed development at Canterbury Waste Water Treatment Works, Sturry Road, Canterbury, Kent CT2 0AA

Southern Water Services Limited is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission under section 5.73 of the Town and Country Planning Act to remove condition 1 (time limit) pursuant to approval of CA/12/145 - variation of conditions 4 & 5 of CA/92/478 - importation of industrial liquid waste (to allow a maximum volume of 735m³ per week and no more than 41 tanker loads per week).

You may view this application at Canterbury City Council, Canterbury Main Office, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1YW.

Alternatively, details of the application can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications or at our offices in Maidstone at the address below during all reasonable office hours.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to planning.applications@kent.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons and may include publishing on the City Council website.

Sharon Thompson
Head of Planning
Applications Group
Kent County Council
Dated: 27th October 2013



THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the Council:

Y13/1059/SH – The Metropole The Leas Folkestone Kent CT20 2LU – Works to trees situated within a conservation area comprising the crown reduction back to previous pollard points of two Sycamores and 5 metre crown lift of a Holm oak

Y13/0972/SH – 44 Sandgate High Street Sandgate Folkestone Kent CT20 3AP–Change of use of part ground and part first floors to form a self – contained flat.

Y13/0977/SH – 13 Twiss Avenue Hythe Kent CT21 5NU–Works to trees situated within a conservation area comprising: felling of a Eucalyptus tree (E1); 1 metre reduction in height and re-shape of 3 Conifers (T1, T2 and T3); 1 metre reduction in height, 0.5 metre reduction of lateral limbs and re-shape of 3 conifers (T4, T5 and T6); 1 metre (approx) reduction in height of one conifer (T8); 2 metre reduction in height and 1.5 metre reduction of lateral limbs of a Walnut (W1) and 2 metre reduction in height and 1 metre (approx) reduction of lateral limbs of a Beech (B1)

Y13/0840/SH# – 37 High Street Dymchurch Romney Marsh Kent TN29 0NH – Change of use from florist to hot food takeaway.

Y13/0971/SH – 44 Sandgate High Street Sandgate Folkestone Kent CT20 3AP–Listed building consent for internal alterations in connection with the proposed change of use of part ground and part first floors to a self-contained flat.

Any representations should be made in writing to the Head of Planning, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or emailed to planning@shepway.gov.uk. Comments should be made in writing within 21 days from the date of publication. It should be noted that any representations received will be made available for public inspection.

Some applications can be viewed at other locations in addition to the Civic Centre, Folkestone. The applications are marked as follows:

– The One Stop Shop, Magpies, Church Approach, New Romney

+ – Hythe Town Council Offices, Stade Street, Hythe

Applications can be viewed and comments made online at <http://searchplanapps.shepway.gov.uk/online-applications/>.

The applications marked (*) do not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated.

C Lewis, Head of Planning
Shepway District Council



TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

PLANNING APPLICATIONS LISTED BUILDING CONSENTS CONSERVATION AREA CONSENTS

DOV/13/00604 Section 73 application to vary condition 2 of planning permission DOV/10/00488 (erection of 4 dwellings and construction of vehicular access, together with car parking for the public house) to change plots 1 and 2 from a semi-detached pair into two detached dwellings and alterations to the parking layout
Hope Inn, 144 Canterbury Road, Lydden, Dover, CT15 7ET ARW

DOV/13/00837 Erection of a detached garage, 1.8m high walls, fencing and change of use of land to garden land (existing garage to be demolished)
Old Cottage & Land Adjoining, Loop Street, Sandwich, CT13 9HE LCN

DOV/13/00846 Remove existing counterline
Barclays Bank, 2 Cattle Market, Sandwich, CT13 9AG LCN

DOV/13/00355 Erection of detached building incorporating a reception and office
Kingsdown International Scout Camp, The Avenue, Kingsdown, Deal, CT14 8DU ARW

DOV/13/00776 Display of a non-illuminated panel sign
41 Queen Street, Deal, CT14 6EY CON

DOV/13/00786 Installation of replacement windows, painting of masonry walls, timberwork and metalwork and installation of window boxes to front windows
160 Middle Street, Deal, CT14 6LW SLC

DOV/13/00830 Erection of an agricultural storage building
New Barn Farm & Access, The Street, East Stourmouth, Canterbury, CT3 1HX SLB

DOV/13/00856 Erection of a side roof extension and installation of 3 rooflights
116 High Street, Wingham, Canterbury, CT3 1DE CON

Reason for Advert Codes:-

CON – Within Conservation Area **LCN** – Listed Building in a Conservation Area
ARW – Affects a Public Right of Way **SLB** – To affect the setting of a Listed Building
SLC – To affect setting of a Listed Building & Conservation Area

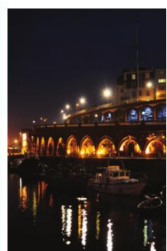
Some applications are not publicised in this list. All applications may be inspected at the Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, to which address any representations (to include a postal address) should be sent within 21 days marked "for the attention of Planning". Applications may also be viewed, and comments on applications may be made on our website www.dover.gov.uk/planning or at Dover Gateway, 71 Castle Street, Dover, Deal Library or the Area Office, The Guildhall, Sandwich

Failure to meet the above deadline may jeopardise the chances of representations being considered. Any representations received may be made available for inspection by the public, and may be copied to others, including the secretary of state and the applicant if there is an appeal against the council's decision. Representations will not be acknowledged until an application has been determined.

Please note that the Council does not accept any responsibility for any incomplete or inaccurate description of any application.

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THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Town and Country Planning Act Notice of Applications

MA/13/1482/S - LAND AT GREEN COURT, HIGH STREET, STAPLEHURST, KENT - An application for the erection of one dwelling. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/13/1681/S - KENT FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE HQ, THE GODLANDS, STRAW MILL HILL, TOVIL, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 6XB - An application for telecommunications permitted development prior approval for the installation of an additional 600mm dish onto the mast. **Reason: 4**

MA/13/1712/N - COURT LODGE FARM, THE STREET, BOXLEY, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 3DX - Conversion of barn to single residential unit including garage building and demolition of redundant agricultural buildings and associated works. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/13/1721/S - LAND REAR OF BARKER COTTAGES NEW CUT, DEAN STREET, EAST FARLEIGH, KENT, ME15 0HR - Demolition of two existing storage buildings and erection of two new dwellings. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/13/1722/S - LAND REAR OF BARKER COTTAGES NEW CUT, DEAN STREET, EAST FARLEIGH, KENT, ME15 0HR - An application for conservation area consent for the demolition of two existing storage buildings. **Reason: 4**

MA/13/1726/S - LAND AT STATION APPROACH AND, GEORGE STREET, STAPLEHURST, KENT - Construction of a class A1 retail store, associated parking and petrol filling station; transport interchange comprising bus and taxi drop-off/pick up facilities, railway station car parking spaces, and covered walkway to existing railway station building (to the south of the railway line); and commuter car park and publicly accessible nature area (to the north of the railway line). Resubmission of application MA/12/0232. **Reason: 6, 9**

MA/13/1727/N - CHERRY TREES, THE STREET, STOCKBURY, SITTINGBOURNE, KENT, ME9 7UD - Erection of two storey rear extension and detached double garage. **Reason: 1**

MA/13/1734/N - CHERRY TREES, THE STREET, STOCKBURY, SITTINGBOURNE, KENT, ME9 7UD - An application for listed building consent for the erection of a two storey rear extension. **Reason: 3**

Reasons for advertisement key:

- 1 - Application affects the setting of a Listed Building.
- 2 - Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
- 3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.
- 4 - Application is for Conservation Area Consent
- 6 - Application is Major Development.
- 9 - Application does not accord with the Local Plan.

Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm, and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **10th November 2013**, quoting the application number.

Rob Jarman, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated:** 27th October 2013.



Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

13/02858/HOUSE Hoads Brook Goddards Green Road, Benenden
- Conservatory to east elevation (PROW)

13/02975/FULL Moat Bungalow Cranbrook Road, Benenden
- Construction of single storey replacement dwelling for Mrs Manal Van Dijk (DEVPLN) (PROW)

13/02976/FULL Esso Pantiles Service Station, Broadwater
- Removal of Condition 16 of TW/90/01434/FUL - Except with the consent of the District Planning Authority, use of the premises shall be restricted to the period between the hours of 06 00 and 23 00 daily (CA)

13/02978/HOUSE The Granary Park Farm, Capel
- Two storey rear extension (LB)

13/02984/HOUSE The Old Oast Park Farm, Capel
- Two storey side and rear extensions (LB)

13/02985/LBC The Old Oast Park Farm, Capel
- Listed Building Consent: Two storey side and rear extensions (LB)

13/02987/LBC The Granary Park Farm, Capel
- Listed Building Consent - Two storey rear extension (LB)

13/03014/LBC Weavers End Course Horn Lane, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Listed Building Consent - Single storey garden room extension (LB)

13/02785/LBC 63 London Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden
- Listed Building Consent: Alterations to basement (LB)

13/02951/LBC ATM Tunbridge Wells Central Railway Station, Culverden
- Listed Building Consent: Installation of ATM in same position as previous ATM (works carried out) (LB)

13/02840/HOUSE Frittenden House South The Street, Frittenden
- Re-construction and alterations to a fire damaged stable block (CA)

13/02870/FULL New Dwelling Talbot Road, Hawkhurst
- Two storey three bedroom dwelling (CA)

13/03024/FULMC 28 London Road Southborough, Southborough Town Council
- Rear extension (CA)

13/02833/FUL The Crown Inn The Green, Speldhurst
- Retrospective - Replace smoking shelter with 2 No. 4sq metre parasol umbrellas (CA)(LB)

13/03034/FULL Tree Tops (Land Adjacent To) Stonewall Park Road, Speldhurst
- Construction of part one and a half and part two and a half storey detached dwelling with integral garage, partially dug into site, and alterations to existing driveway (CA)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of way (CA) Affecting A Conservation Area (LB) Affecting A Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

James Freeman

Head of Planning Services, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 26 October 2013



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Planning applications



Notice under Article 13 of the Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010
 Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
 Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
 Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990
 Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

CA/13/01617/FUL: Land at Calcott Hall, Calcott Hill, Sturry, CT3 4ND Erection of three detached dwellings with associated garages, access road and landscaping. **Applicant: Stallan Sturry Limited** Reason: Affects the setting of a listed building.
CA/13/01909/FUL: Whitstable Railway Station, Railway Avenue, Whitstable, CT5 1QS Removal of existing 14 metres high mast and replacement with a 15 metres high monopole mast with associated equipment cabinet. **Applicant: Telefonica UK Limited**
 Reason: Conservation area.
CA/13/01920/FUL: 2 Mount Cottages, Hatch Lane, Chartham, CT4 7LS Single storey side extension. **Applicant: Mr Tim Flisher**
 Reason: Affects the setting of a listed building.
CA/13/01921/LB: 2 Mount Cottages, Hatch Lane, Chartham, CT4 7LS Single-storey side extension. **Applicant: Mr Tim Flisher**
 Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA/13/01933/FUL: Whitegate Cottage, 59 Nargate Street, Littlebourne, CT3 1UJ Single storey rear extension to provide utility space. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs D Parry** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
CA/13/01936/FUL: 20A Lower Bridge Street, Canterbury, CT1 2LG Replacement shop front. **Applicant: Mr Sandford**
 Reason: Conservation area.
CA/13/01943/LB: Whitegate Cottage, 59 Nargate Street, Littlebourne, CT3 1UJ Single storey rear extension to provide utility space. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs D Parry** Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA/13/01950/FUL: Heaslands, South Barham Road, Barham, CT4 6QA Proposed single-storey rear extension including internal and external works and the installation of a balcony at first floor level. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Martin** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
CA/13/01951/LB: Heaslands, South Barham Road, Barham, CT4 6QA Proposed single-storey rear extension including internal and external works and the installation of a balcony at first floor level. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Martin** Reason: Work to a listed building.

Any representations should be submitted via public access on the planning pages of the website www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc to arrive on or before **Monday 18 November 2013**.

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc

Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration
Friday 25 October 2013

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

Toll Global Forwarding Group (UK) Ltd

Of

c/o BRS @ Thomas Hardie, 5th Avenue, Trafford Park, Manchester, Greater Manchester, M17 1TR

Is applying for a licence to use

Unit B, Acorn Industrial Park, Crayford Road, Dartford, Kent, DA1 4AL

As an operating centre for 5 goods vehicles and 3 trailers

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Central Licensing Office, Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY & VILLAGE GREENS

PROW - IN THE CITY OF CANTERBURY

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH CC45 IN THE CITY OF CANTERBURY

PUBLIC FOOTPATH CC45 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath CC45, between its junction with St Augustines Road and its junction with Byway CC41 from the 11th November 2013.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen before February 2014.

The path is to be closed because resurfacing works are planned on it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

The alternative route is via St Augustines Road and Byway CC41 and will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact Melvyn Twycross Contact Centre no. 03000 417171

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

PROW - IN THE DISTRICT OF SEVENOAKS

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE BYWAY SD192 IN THE PARISHES OF EYNSFORD AND FARNINGHAM BYWAY SD192 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has made an Order the effect of which is to temporarily close Byway SD192, between its junction with Beesfield Lane west to its junction with Priory Lane (NGR TQ547 660) from the 21st October 2013.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months.

The path is to be closed to all vehicle and equestrian traffic because surface re-grading works are to be carried out on it. The works also require a period of consolidation before the route is re-opened to all traffic. There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact David Munn Contact Centre no. 0845 3450210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

PROW - IN THE DISTRICT OF SHEPWAY

NOTICE OF MODIFICATION ORDER WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981 DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF KENT

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (FOOTPATH HM222 AT DYMCURCH & BURMARSH) DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER 2012

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (FOOTPATH HM222 AT DYMCURCH & BURMARSH) DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER 2013

This notice amends the notices dated 18th November 2012 and 7th July 2013 respectively for the above Orders in relation to the direction in which the Order route runs.

The above 2012 Order was made on 30th October 2012 and the above 2013 Order was made on 18th June 2013 under section 53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

The 2012 Order has been submitted to the Secretary of State for non-confirmation due to the publication of the 2013 Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way.

If the 2013 Order is confirmed, it will modify the Definitive Map and Statement for the area by adding a Footpath which commences on the A259 in the parish of Dymchurch at NGR TR1275 3191 (point A on the Order plan) through a gap at the side of a 4-metre wide gate, and runs in a north-north-westerly direction for 1404 metres to its connection with Botolphs Bridge Road (C414) in the parish of Burmarsh at NGR TR 1215 3317 (point C on the Order plan). The path crosses the Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Light Railway line at grade at NGR TR 1237 3279. (Between the points A-B-C). The path has an initial width of 0.96 metre via a gap at the side of a 4-metre wide gate; it then opens out to 4.0 metres until the end of Brockman Crescent; the remainder of the path is 5.0 metres wide.

All distances are approximate, all directions are general.

A copy of the Order and Map may be seen free of charge during normal office hours at the offices of Shepway District Council, The Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or at the Kent County Council, PROW & Access Service, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. Copies of the Order and Map may also be purchased there at the price of £5.

Any representation about or objection to the Order must be sent or delivered in writing to Mrs Maria McLauchlan at the Kent County Council (address as below) no later than 9th December 2013. Please state the grounds on which they are made.

Please note that objections/representations cannot be treated as confidential and may come into the public domain. Copies of any objections or representations received may be disclosed to interested parties, including the Planning Inspectorate where the case is referred to it for determination.

If no such representations or objections are duly made to the Order (or to any part of it), or if any so made are withdrawn, the Kent County Council, instead of submitting the Order to the Secretary of State (or part of it if the Authority has by Notice to the Secretary of State so elected under paragraph 5 of schedule 15 to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) may itself confirm the Order (or that part of the Order). If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment (in whole or in part), any representations or objections which have been duly made and not been withdrawn will be sent with it.

Public Rights of Way and Access Service
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XX

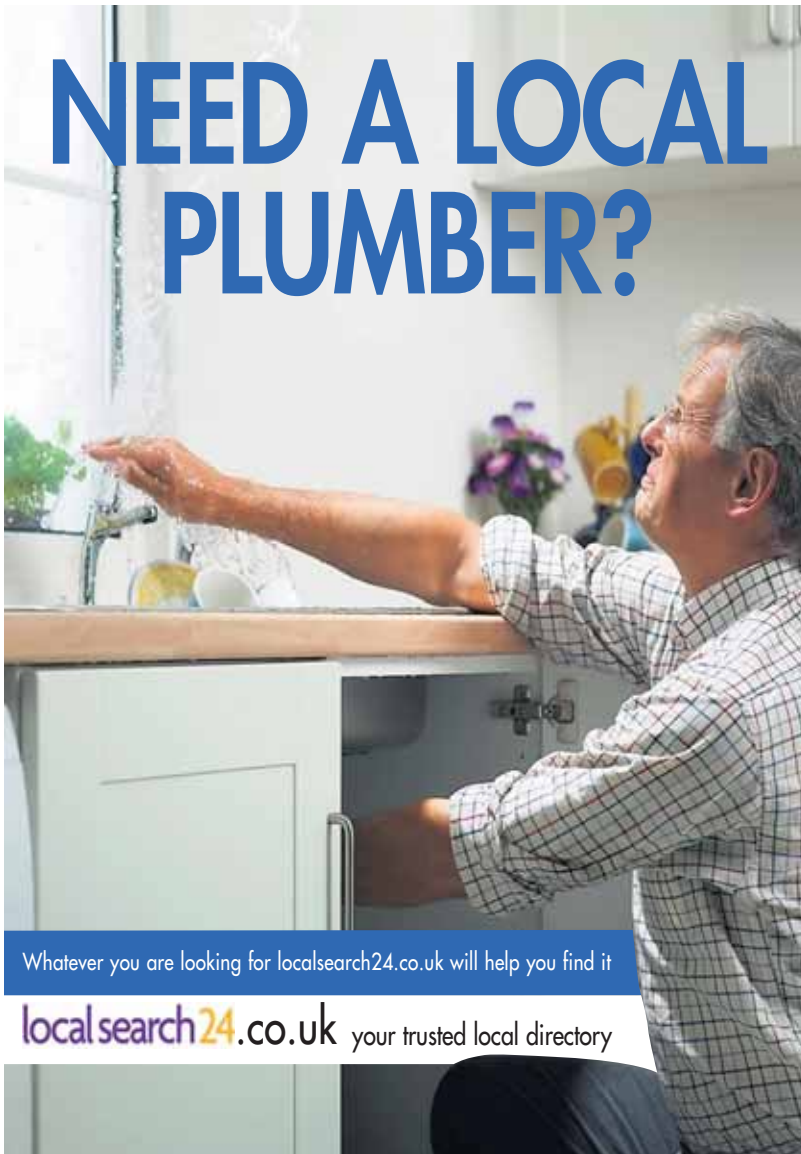
Dated: 17th March 2013

This document is available in alternative formats and can be explained in a range of languages.

For further information, please contact
Kent Public Rights of Way and Access Service,
on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess



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HIGHWAYS – ASHFORD AREA

JACKSONS LANE, TENTERDEN (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on Jacksons Lane, Tenterden.

Jacksons Lane will be closed in the vicinity of the junction with High Street.

Overnight closures are planned to commence from Monday 11 November 2013 for up to 1 week, between 19:00 hours and 23:00 hours each night.

There is no alternative route as the road is a *cul-de-sac*. Local arrangements will be in place to allow any essential access during the closure periods.

These closures are in conjunction with temporary traffic lights in High Street.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (OAK GROVE LANE, HIGH HALDEN) (WEIGHT RESTRICTION) ORDER 2013

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL proposes to make the above named Order under Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 124 and Schedule 9 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which would be to prohibit goods vehicles with a gross weight exceeding 7.5t from using Oak Grove Lane, High Halden, with certain exemptions for local buses and restricted classes of other vehicles.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which, together with the relevant plans and a Statement of Reasons for proposing to make the Order, may be examined during normal office hours at County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ, at the offices of the Ashford Highways Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, Kent TN24 8AD.

Any persons wishing to support or object to the proposal should write to Steve Darling, Ashford Highways Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8AD or email tro@kent.gov.uk – quoting the name of the Order and stating their reasons, by no later than Monday 18 November 2013.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, THE BOROUGH OF ASHFORD) (20MPH, 30MPH, 40MPH, 50MPH SPEED LIMITS AND DERESTRICTED ROADS) AMENDMENT NO. 6 ORDER 2013

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council proposes to make an Order under Sections 81, 82, 83 and 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which would be to reduce the speed limit on Oak Grove Lane to 30mph; on the A28 between High Halden and Tenterden to 40mph; and on the A262 between the A28 and Biddenden to 40mph and 50mph.

A copy of the proposed Order, an explanatory statement and a map showing the lengths of roads concerned may be inspected during normal office hours at County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ or at the offices of the Ashford Highways Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD.

Any persons wishing to support or object to the proposal should write to Steve Darling, Ashford Highways Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8AD or email tro@kent.gov.uk – quoting the name of the Order and stating their reasons, by no later than Monday 18 November 2013.

THE STREET, BRABOURNE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of drainage improvement works to alleviate local flooding, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of The Street, Brabourne, Ashford.

The Street will be closed between the junction of Canterbury Road and Parsonage Farm.

The closure is planned to commence from Monday 11 November 2013 for up to 5 days. Due to the nature of the works, it will not be possible to re-open the road outside the working hours.

The alternative route is via The Street, Stock Lane and Pilgrims Way.

HIGHWAYS – CANTERBURY AREA

B2205 CHESTFIELD ROAD, SWALECLIFFE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To enable bridge refurbishment works to be carried out, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of B2205 Chestfield Road, Swalecliffe.

Chestfield Road will be closed in the vicinity of the railway bridge, with no access for through traffic between the junctions with (Old) Thanet Way and St

John's Road.

Closures are planned to commence from Monday 11 November 2013 for up to 6 weeks.

Closures will be overnight from Sunday night to Thursday night each week (Monday to Thursday the first week), between 20:00 hours through until 05:00 hours each night.

The alternative route is via A2990 (Old) Thanet Way, B2205 Greenhill Bridge Road, Sea Street, Whitstable Road, Colewood Road and St John's Road.

It is possible that day time closures may also be needed on certain Sundays, which will be notified should they become necessary.

The works are weather dependent, and prolonged periods of adverse conditions may extend the planned timescale.

DERRINGSTONE STREET, BARHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow sewer repair works to be carried out, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Derringsstone Street, Barham.

Derringsstone Street will be closed in the vicinity of the junction with Railway Hill.

The closure is planned to commence from Monday 11 November 2013 for up to 2 weeks.

Access will remain from Valley Road, but there will be no through access. The alternative route for through traffic is via Railway Hill, Green Hills and Valley Road.

Due to the nature of these works, it will not be possible to re-open the road outside the working hours.

FOXGROVE ROAD, WHITSTABLE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on Foxgrove Road, Whitstable. Foxgrove Road, Whitstable will be closed for its entire length.

The closure is planned to commence from 30 October 2013 for up to 3 days, between 08:00 and 17:00 hours each day.

The alternative route is via A2990 (Old) Thanet Way, Church Street and Ham Shades Lane.

HALES DRIVE, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow tree safety works to be carried out, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on Hales Drive, Canterbury.

Hales Drive will be closed between the junctions with St Stephen's Road and The Terrace.

Closures are planned to commence from Monday 28 October 2013 for up to 3 days, between 09:30 hours and 16:30 hours each day.

The alternative route is via St Stephen's Green, St Stephen's Hill and Manwood Avenue.

ST LAWRENCE ROAD, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of footway repair works and the removal of unsafe trees, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on B2068 St Lawrence Road, Canterbury.

St Lawrence Road will be closed for its entire length.

The closure is planned to commence from 28 October 2013 for up to 2 weeks. Due to the nature of these works, it will not be possible to re-open the road outside the working hours.

The alternative route for diverted traffic is via A2050 New Dover Road to roundabout then Old Dover Road.

The road will be re-opened on the evening of 5 November to allow access during the nearby Fireworks Display.

A28 STURRY ROAD, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of A28 Sturry Road, Canterbury.

Sturry Road will be closed to the east of the junction with Vauxhall Road, between the pedestrian crossing

and the eastern entrance to the Park and Ride.

There will be no direct access between Canterbury and Sturry using the A28, during these works.

Closures are planned to commence from 28 October 2013 for up to 2 nights, between 20:00 hours through until 06:00 hours each night.

The alternative routes are

Light vehicles and buses via A291 Sturry Hill, Herne Bay Road, Sweetgate, Shalloak Road, Broad Oak Road, Vauxhall Road, A28 Sturry Road and Mill Road.

All Vehicles over 7.5 T (except buses) via A291 Sturry Hill, Herne Bay Road, Canterbury Road, A299 Thanet Way, A290 Clapham Hill, Pean Hill, Honey Hill, Blean Common, Blean Hill, Whitstable Road, St Thomas Hill, Whitstable Road, London Road, A2050 Rheims Way, A28 Ring Road and Sturry Road

HIGHWAYS – DOVER AREA

NORTHWALL ROAD, DEAL (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

BECAUSE OF WORKS TO ANALYSE THE ROAD COMPOSITION AND DEPTH OF SERVICES IN ANTICIPATION OF FUTURE RECONSTRUCTION, KENT COUNTY COUNCIL HAS MADE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY PROHIBIT THROUGH TRAFFIC ON PART OF NORTHWALL ROAD, DEAL.

Northwall Road will be closed in phases between the junctions with Golf Road and Friends Close.

The closure is planned for 29 October 2013 for up to 1 day within the hours of 07:00 hours and 17:00 hours whilst the machinery is actually in use.

The road will otherwise remain open when it is safe to allow this, and every effort will be made to maintain as much access as possible.

There is no alternative route as the road is a *cul-de-sac*.

STRAIGHT MILE, BETTESHANGER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Straight Mile, Betteshanger.

Straight Mile will be closed between the junctions with the A256 and Cater Road.

The closure is planned to commence from 28 October 2013 for up to 3 days, between 09:00 hours and 16:00 hours each day.

The alternative routes are

Westbound via Cater Road and A256 Whitfield Bypass
Eastbound via Cater Road or via A256 Whitfield Bypass, Boys Hill, Willow Woods Road and Northbourne Lane

HIGHWAYS – GRAVESHAM AREA

CLIVE ROAD, BARRACK ROW, DARNLEY ROAD (PART) GRAVESEND (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of the movement of an abnormal load, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Clive Road, Barrack Row, Darnley Road (part) Gravesend, on or after 16th November 2013

The restrictions will apply to the following streets when the appropriate signage and traffic management is in place.

The restrictions will apply between the following dates and times

Sat 16th November 2013 20:00hrs to Mon 18th November 2013 04:00hrs

Sat 30th November 2013 20:00hrs to Mon 2nd December 2013 04:00hrs

Sat 21st December 2013 20:00hrs to Sun 22nd December 2013 08:00hrs

Sun 5th January 2014 20:00hrs to Mon 6th January 08:00hrs

The diversion route for vehicles will be Railway Place – Windmill Street (southbound)- Lord Street – Woodville Place- Wrotham Road (southbound)- Old Road West- Lennox Road-The Overcliffe

HIGHWAYS – MAIDSTONE AREA

BIMBURY LANE, STOCKBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to install a new water main, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to prohibit through traffic on Bimbury Lane from A249 Sittingbourne Road to outside Bimbury Cottage on or after 04 November 2013 until 20 November 2013 or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via A249 Sittingbourne Road, Chalky Road, South Street Road.

VICARAGE ROAD, YALDING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of repairs to the drainage system to prevent flooding, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Vicarage Road, Yalding, on or after 28 October 2013 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between The Beeches and Holbrook.

The alternative route is via B2010 Yalding Hill/Smith's Hill, B2163 Ewell Lane/Heath Road, Upper Hunton Hill, Hunton Hill, West Street.

VARIOUS ROADS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow a programme of carriageway repair works to be carried out, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to restrict traffic on various roads, as shown below.

The Order will become effective on or after **17th November 2013** for up to 18 months, or until the works have been completed.

Planned dates will be indicated by signage displayed on site 14 days in advance. Road closures will be in effect when the appropriate signage and barriers are in place.

Every effort will be made to keep to the schedule shown below. Some minor modifications may be made to dates and duration of works, to be advised once known.

Adverse weather conditions may prevent some works being carried out on the planned dates. Roads that are missed will be re-scheduled, as advised locally and signposted on site.

SCHEDULE

MAIDSTONE

GRANVILLE ROAD – whole length **17th November 2013**

Alternative route via Boxley Road, Well Road, Fisher Street, Peel Street

WESTFIELD SOLE ROAD, BOXLEY – whole length **18th November 2013**

Alternative route via Harp Farm Road, Lidsing Road

ALLEN STREET – whole length **2nd December 2013**

Alternative route via Hedley Street, Holland Road, St Luke's Avenue

BARTON ROAD – whole length **7th December 2013**

Alternative route from the junction with St Phillips Avenue via St Phillips Avenue, Waterloo Street and from junction with A229 Upper Stone Street via A229 Upper Stone Street/Loose Road, Park Way, West Park Road, Upper Road

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE) (7.5 TONNE WEIGHT RESTRICTION)

**AMENDMENT NO. 1 EXPERIMENTAL ORDER 2013
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

Notice is hereby given that The Kent County Council, acting as the Local Traffic Authority and in exercise of its powers under Section 9 and 10 (2) of the Road and Traffic Regulation Act 1984, hereby makes an amendment to the current experimental Order in the Yalding area with the effect of allowing the County Council to issue exemption certificates to vehicles with a maximum permissible laden weight of which exceeds 7.5 tonne to proceed in those lengths of road specified in the Schedule to that Order which includes :-

Benover Road (B2162) – From its junction with the B2162 Hampstead Lane to its junction with Collier Street

For further information, please contact
Kent County Council Highways and Transportation,
on 0300 333 5539 (local rate)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



Claygate (B2162) – From its junction with B2162 Collier Street to its junction with Spenny Lane

Collier Street (B2162) – From its junction with the B2162 Benover Road to its junction with B2162 Claygate.

Emmet Hill Lane – From its junction with B2162 Benover Road to its junction with Claygate Road.

Forge Lane – From its junction with B2162 Benover Road to its junction with Jarmans Lane.

Green Lane – From its junction with B2162 Collier Street to its junction with Hunton Road.

Haviker Street – From its junction with B2162 Collier Street to its junction with Green Lane.

High Street – From its junction with B2162 Benover Road to its junction with Vicarage Road.

Hunton Road – From its junction with East Street to its junction with Pattenden Lane.

Jarmans Lane – From its junction with Forge Lane to its junction with the B2162 Collier Street.

Kenward Road – From its junction with Hunt Street to its junction with B2010 Yalding Hill.

Kings Lane – From its junction with B2162 Collier Street to its junction with Spenny Lane.

Longend Lane – From its junction with B2162 Collier Street to its junction with Green Lane.

Lughorse Lane – From its junction with Yalding Hill to its junction with West Street.

Mill Lane – From its junction with West Street to its junction with the B2162 Benover Road.

Sheephurst Lane – From its junction with B2162 Collier Street to its junction with Goudhurst Road.

Symonds Lane – From its junction with B2162 Benover Road to its junction with Lees Road.

West Street – From its junction with Mill Lane to its junction with Lughorse Lane.

Vicarage Road – From its junction with Mill Lane to its junction with the B2010 High Street Yalding

Yalding Hill – From its junction with Vicarage Road to its junction with Lughorse Lane

The Order making authority will be considering in January 2014 whether the provisions of the experimental Order should continue in force indefinitely and should they be made permanent a further notice shall be published.

A copy of the amendment Order, which comes into force on 1st November 2013, a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order, maps indicating the location and the effect and a copy of any of the original Order which will be amended may be inspected during normal office hours Monday to Fridays at Kent County Council Offices, Sessions House, Maidstone, ME14 1XQ and Ashford Highways Depot, 4 Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, Kent TN24 8AD.

Any person wishing to support or object to it must do so in writing quoting the name of the Order to Andy Corcoran, The Traffic Schemes and Member Highway Fund Manager, Kent County Council Highways, 4 Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to TRO@kent.gov.uk stating their reasons.

HIGHWAYS – SEVENOAKS AREA

CARTERS HILL, SEAL, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of a new gas service to be installed, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Carters Hill, Seal, Sevenoaks, on or after 11th November 2013 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside Little Bowshot and there will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via: Underriver House Road.

HIGHWAYS – SHEPWAY AREA

CHERITON ROAD, FOLKESTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To enable a detailed examination of the railway bridge to be carried out, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Cheriton Road, Folkestone.

Cheriton Road will be closed in the vicinity of the railway bridge, with no through access between the junctions with Castle Hill Avenue and Radnor Park Road.

The closure is planned to commence on Saturday 2 November 2013 from 22:00 hours through until 06:00 hours.

The alternative routes are

Northbound via Cheriton Road, Foresters Way, Grace Hall, Foord Road North and Radnor Park Road

Southbound via Radnor Park Road, Pavilion Road, Black Bull Road, Foord Road North, New Street, Bradstone Road, Dover Road, Grace Hill, Shellons Street, Middelburg Square, Cheriton Gardens, Shorncliffe Road and Castle Hill Avenue

There will be a suspension of the Order that prevents right turns from the northbound carriageway of Castle Hill Avenue into Cheriton Road.

TONTINE STREET, FOLKESTONE (10 MPH SPEED LIMIT) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

For the safety of the public and workforce during carriageway repairs, Kent County Council has made an Order imposing a temporary mandatory maximum speed limit of 10 miles per hour on part of Tontine Street, Folkestone.

This applies from the junction with Harbour Street as far as where Tontine Street splits.

The restrictions are planned to commence from 28 October 2013 for up to 2 days, between 09:30 hours and 15:30 hours each day, and are in force when the relevant 10 mph speed limit signs are on display.

HIGHWAYS – SWALE AREA

CRYALLS LANE, SITTINGBOURNE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Cryalls Lane, Sittingbourne.

Cryalls Lane will be closed between the junctions with Wises Lane and Brisbane Avenue.

The closure is planned to commence from 11 November 2013 for up to 5 days.

The alternative route is via Wises Lane, A2 London Road, Adelaide Drive and Brisbane Avenue.

Due to the nature of the works, it will not be possible to re-open the road outside the working hours.

STATION ROW LEVEL CROSSING, TEYNHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER NOVEMBER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of level crossing maintenance, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Station Row Level Crossing, Teynham.

Station Row will be closed at the Level Crossing.

The planned closure is on Sunday 17th November from 00:30 hours until 09:00 hours.

There is no alternative route. Every effort will be made to maintain access whenever it is safe to do so.

WISES LANE, SITTINGBOURNE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Wises Lane, Sittingbourne.

Wises Lane will be closed between the junctions with Brier Road and Maylam Gardens.

Closures are planned to commence from Thursday 31 October 2013 for up to 2 days, between 09:00 hours and 16:00 hours each day.

The alternative route is via A2 London Road, Adelaide Drive, Borden Lane, The Street and Wises Lane.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, THE BOROUGH OF SWALE) (20MPH, 30MPH, 40MPH, 50MPH SPEED LIMITS AND DERESTRICTED ROADS)

AMENDMENT NO. 5 ORDER 2013

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council proposes to make an Order under Sections 81, 82, 83 and 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which would be to :-

Extend the existing 30mph speed limit on The Street, Lower Halstow for 126 metres westwards to a point 206 metres west of Breach Lane

A copy of the proposed Order, an explanatory statement and a map showing the lengths of roads concerned may be inspected during normal office hours at County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ or at the offices of

the Ashford Highways Depot, 4 Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8AD

Any persons wishing to support the proposal, or to object to it should write to Rebecca Bailey, Ashford Highways Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD or email tro@kent.gov.uk quoting the name of the Order and stating their reasons, by no later than 18/11/2013. www.kent.gov.uk

HIGHWAYS – THANET

CONVENT ROAD, BROADSTAIRS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To enable works to be carried out to install a new electricity supply, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Convent Road, Broadstairs.

Convent Road will be closed in the vicinity of North Foreland Golf Course.

The closure is planned to commence from 12 November 2013 for up to 8 days.

Access will remain from either direction up to the point of closure, but there will be no through access.

The alternative route for through traffic is via George Hill Road, Whiteness Road and Kingsgate Bay Road.

Access to the Golf Club and Nursery will be from the Kingsgate Bay Road direction, using the above diversion.

DOWNES ROAD, RAMSGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of urgent sewer repair works, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on Downes Road, Ramsgate.

Downes Road will be closed in phases between junctions with Goodwin Road and Chilton Lane. Access will remain from either direction up to where the road is closed, but there will be no through access.

The closure is planned to commence from 28 October 2013 for up to 9 weeks, with an estimated completion date of 23 December 2013.

Due to the nature of these works, it will not be possible to re-open the road outside the working hours.

The alternative through route is via Chilton Lane, B2054 London Road and Goodwin Road.

HIGHWAYS – TONBRIDGE & MALLING AREA

BUTCHERS LANE, MEREWORTH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to install a new electric cable, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Butchers Lane, Mereworth, on or after 11 November 2013 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between Beech Road and Kent Street.

The alternative route is via Beech Road, B2016 Seven Mile Lane and The Street.

EAST STREET, ADDINGTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of a new gas supply, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on East Street, Addington, on or after 12 November 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside East Street Farmhouse.

There is no alternative route.

SANDY LANE, RYARSH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of repairs to the railway bridge, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Sandy Lane, Ryarsh, on or after 11 November 2013 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the railway bridge.

The alternative route is via Fartherwell Road, Teston Road, Church Road, A20 London Road.

VICTORIA ROAD, HADLOW (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING & CLOSURE OF PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY MT136) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of the demolition and reconstruction of the Golden Green Culvert, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Victoria Road, Hadlow, on or after 28 October 2013 for up to 22 weeks or until the works have been completed. The Public Right of Way MT136 will also be closed.

They will be closed at the Golden Green Culvert.

The alternative route for vehicular traffic is via Three Elm Lane, A26 Tonbridge Road, Court Lane.

HIGHWAYS – TUNBRIDGE WELLS AREA

JARVIS LANE, GOUDHURST (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of BT Openreach laying duct in the carriageway, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Jarvis Lane, Goudhurst, on or after 11 November 2013 for up to 15 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from B2084 Chequers Road to Mile Lane.

The alternative route is via Mile Lane, A262 Cranbrook Road and B2084 Chequers Road.

RIDDLESDALE AVENUE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to clear a blocked water main, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Riddlesdale Avenue, on or after 28 October 2013 for up to 10 days or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via East Cliff Road and New England Road.

WINDMILL HILL, CROOK ROAD & PIXOT HILL, BRENCHLEY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway resurfacing and vegetation clearance, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Windmill Hill, Crook Road & Pixot Hill, Brenchley, on or after 28 October 2013 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

Windmill Hill will be closed between Crook Road and Windmill Cottages, Crook Road between Wat Tylers Barn and The Ridgeway and Pixot Hill between Crook Road and Fairways.

The alternative route is via Brenchley Road, Coppers Lane, B2160 Maidstone Road/Gedge's Hill, Chantler's Hill, Mascall's Court Road, Pearson's Green Road, Crook Road.

John Burr
Director of Highways & Transportation
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall,
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ

Dated 27th October 2013

For further information, please contact
Kent County Council Highways and Transportation,
on 0300 333 5539 (local rate)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



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Shakey still has his eyes

A season of domination ended in disappointment as Shane 'Shakey' Byrne sought to create history.

Greg Miles finds out what is next in store for the British Superbike favourite.

FOR Shane Byrne to have been beaten to the British Superbike Championship this season by a rival he has led all year could so easily be soul-destroying.

It is an even more heartbreaking scenario given that the Sittingbourne favourite had high hopes of creating history by winning the title for the fourth time, surpassing his record-equalling third crown achieved last season.

There is, though, no animosity towards new champion Alex Lowes, no bemoaning of the Showdown system that has ultimately been his undoing this season, and instead he insists that he is more pumped up than ever to underline his claim as the greatest BSB rider of all time.

However, it remains to be seen when he will take on that challenge again.

Twice before, he has left these shores for a shot at success on the world stage after winning the BSB title, first in 2004 when he jumped into MotoGP after winning the title the previous year, and then again into World Superbikes in 2009 after his second title.

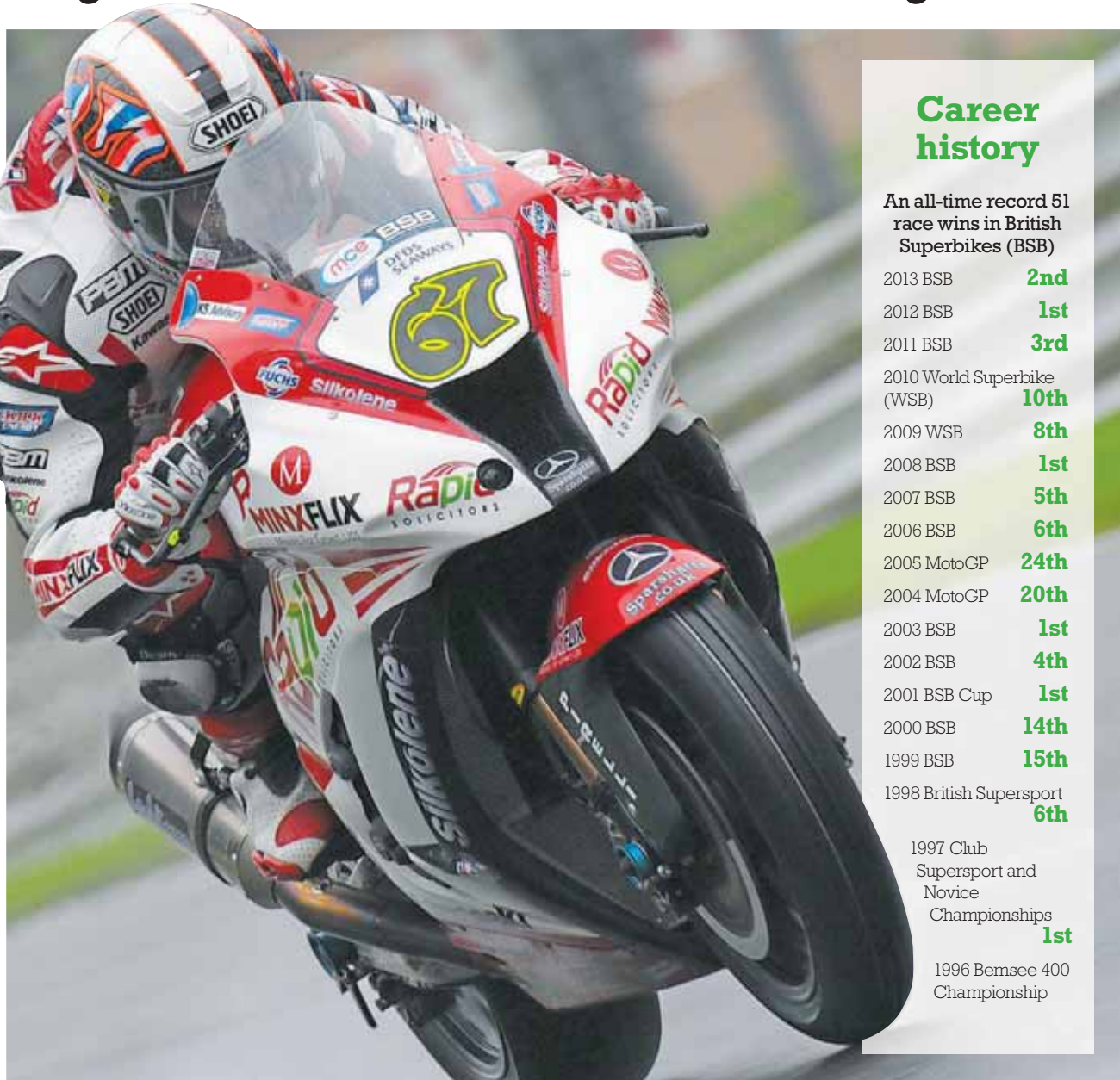
There was a change of thinking 12 months ago, though, as his eyes lit up at the thought of becoming one of the greats, with a record number of race wins still to be claimed from Japanese ace Ryuichi Kiyonari... and, of course, that fourth title.

It was that or have a second bite at MotoGP with Paul Bird Motorsport, for whom he rides in BSB under the Rapid Solicitors Kawasaki banner.

This time around, however, there is no wave of euphoria to ride on for the 36-year-old as he weighs up his options for the future.

"There is no concrete plan right now," he said. "It's a difficult one. The way things are right now, all I want to do is go away and have five minutes away and spend time with my family and hope to chill out and have a think about things."

"I think I'm probably already more determined to come back and have



Career history

An all-time record 51 race wins in British Superbikes (BSB)

2013 BSB	2nd
2012 BSB	1st
2011 BSB	3rd
2010 World Superbike (WSB)	10th
2009 WSB	8th
2008 BSB	1st
2007 BSB	5th
2006 BSB	6th
2005 MotoGP	24th
2004 MotoGP	20th
2003 BSB	1st
2002 BSB	4th
2001 BSB Cup	1st
2000 BSB	14th
1999 BSB	15th
1998 British Supersport	6th
1997 Club Supersport and Novice Championships	1st
1996 Bemsee 400 Championship	

“It would have been great to get back-to-back titles. Nobody can take away my other three, though. It has just delayed things.”

Shane Byrne,
2013 British Superbike runner-up

another stab at it. It would have been great to get back-to-back titles.

"No matter what happens, nobody can take away my other three, though. It has just delayed things another year."

"It's not the end of the line, far from

it. If anything, this year has helped to make me have another proper go at it."

That said, he does not want to confirm his return to BSB just yet and insists another challenge for the title could come in future years.

At the start of the month he had to deny any deal had yet been done for his return to BSB with PBM in 2014.

If he does make what would seem to be an unlikely move to MotoGP in his current employer's team he would have new BSB champ Lowes for company as his team-mate.

It was Lowes whom Byrne had to fight to stay ahead of all season and it was not until the final weekend when they changed places in the leaderboard.

Lowes clinched the title in the last few laps of the final race to bring back bad memories for Byrne.

It was an all too familiar story as he had also been well in with a shout for the title going into the Showdown series in 2011.

On that occasion he won the final race but was already out of contention, with Edenbridge rider Tommy Hill coming out on top by 0.006 seconds ahead of John Hopkins after the two had swapped places several times on the final lap.

Byrne stopped short of criticising the format of the season, which sees the top six in the standings have their points tallies cleared back to 500 after nine rounds.

Their totals are then added to by podium credits collected throughout the season, with three points for a win, two for second and one for third. That total comes into play for the Showdown, which covers the final three rounds of seven races during

which only the top six riders can win the title.

It means that riders successful in the normal season may miss out on the title as the points gap closes, while one bad race could put you out of contention completely. It can be just as advantageous, though, for those looking to sneak in at the last minute.

"The thing is, nobody can ever deny the fact I have scored the most wins over the year. I know it's not won like that," he said.

"Whether I think it or not, it's not going to change it or alter the way they run the championship. It's one of those things, you have got to get on with it. Last year I didn't actually win the most points and I won the championship."

Byrne looked on the bright side of the season, having enjoyed a good battle with Lowes throughout.

on fourth title

“It’s disappointing not to have retained the title, but it’s been one of the most enjoyable seasons of racing I’ve ever had.”

Shane Byrne,
2013 British Superbike runner-up

“I’m actually not too down,” he said. “I’m not too bad, I’ve had a fantastic year. It’s been one of those years where a number of things have happened in the season that have made me realise how much I love my job and how much I enjoy BSB and being a part of this championship.”

“We have lined up on the grid pretty much every weekend knowing we’ve got a good shout of winning.”

He was, however, disappointed by the wet weather that denied the big crowds at Brands Hatch a decent spectacle on the final weekend.

“For me personally I’m a little bit sad for the crowd because I think had Josh [Brookes], myself, Alex [Lowes] and James [Westmoreland] and other guys had a dry track for the weekend it could have been every bit as good as it has been in the previous rounds.”

“As a show, that’s what we want to give them. To have it decided by sketchy conditions and whatever it is tough,” he said.

Byrne was so focused in the final race that he did not realise just what was happening as he needed to finish above Lowes to secure the title.

“I gave so much, I didn’t realise I was in second for so much of the race. I thought I was in fifth or sixth or a way back,” he said.

“I looked at my board and saw P2 and I thought ‘Who’s winning it, then, because I can’t see anybody’ and Alex was P3. I thought ‘That’s done it, that’s enough’. When Alex came past me, I thought ‘Oh no, he’s going to disappear’.

“I just tried to concentrate and stay smooth, but I knew Alex would have a go and when he did I had to fight back straight away otherwise it would be over. Sure enough, he came by, but we were having so many moments out there I just couldn’t get him back.”

“I made a mistake and ran wide a couple of times on the last lap, but Alex put it on the line and became champion and it’s been a pleasure to race with him all year long.”

“I pushed just a little bit too much into Druids Corner. I lost the front and slipped a little bit but stayed on the bike and followed him around.”

“It was tough to ride around and see the championship I won last year go to someone else. There’s no one more worthy, though.”

“Obviously, it’s disappointing not to have retained the title, but it’s been one of the most enjoyable seasons of racing I’ve ever had. It’s tough to see the title disappear.”

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HOW THE FINAL WEEKEND UNFOLDED



FINALE: Alex Lowes, Josh Brookes and Shane Byrne at Brands Hatch

Going into the final weekend, Shane Byrne was a point ahead of rival Alex Lowes, meaning it was truly in the balance.

The first race on Saturday saw Lowes take a three-point advantage as he came second, with Josh Brookes taking the win, while Byrne came third.

Race two on Sunday threw another dramatic twist on the final weekend, with both Lowes and Byrne crashing out in the wet conditions. Lowes slid out on the exit of Druids on the opening lap, while Byrne, who had slipped down to ninth after a strong start, suffered the same fate on the same corner in lap six.

That meant there was still just three points between them come the final race. Byrne certainly had it all to do starting from the eighth row of the grid, but he carved his way through the field and was

running in seventh on the fourth lap, with Lowes three places ahead of him.

A lap later, Byrne had made up three places and Lowes moved into third and after both had passed Jon Kirkham it turned into a straight shoot-out for the title.

By lap seven, Byrne made the move and went ahead in the title race as he took second from Lowes. However, Lowes crucially retook his spot on lap 16 with a move down the inside at Graham Hill Bend.

Byrne pushed hard to get back but couldn’t pass the Samsung Honda rider, who finished 2.7 seconds ahead of the home favourite.

In the end, seven points separated the pair at the top of the championship leaderboard, with Byrne runner-up and Josh Brookes third.

New champion Alex Lowes paid tribute to the man whose crown he stole in the last race.

The 23-year-old from Derbyshire thanked Shane Byrne for making him the rider he is after clinching the title.

“I owe a big thanks to Shakey. He’s made me the rider I am now, following him and watching him,” he said.

“Ten years ago, I watched him round this track and do the double as a wild card in the British Superbikes.”

“He’s someone I look up to. It’s been great this year – I’ve loved the battles.”



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Gillingham striker enjoying style under new boss Taylor

GILLINGHAM striker Danny Kedwell admits he is enjoying the change in style under interim manager Peter Taylor.

Kedwell netted his fourth goal in as many games as the Gills beat Notts County 2-1 at Priestfield on Tuesday.

It was his second man-of-the-match performance in as many games as he looks to be taking on board Taylor’s new way of thinking.

“He’s getting the boys to be more calm on the ball – it’s not 100 miles an hour like it was under Martin Allen,” he said. “It was go out all guns blazing and get out there and run after everything. He’s getting us to play more football.”

“He’s improved my game to stay up front. It’s working on me, I’ve got two in two. It’s worked in the last two games and I’ve really enjoyed it.”



GOALS: Kedwell



RETURN: Camier finishes in top 10

Camier back in business after injury

LEON Camier had a weekend to remember on his comeback from injury in the World Superbike Championship as he picked up two top-eight finishes in Jerez.

The Ashford ace had not ridden for four weeks until last weekend after breaking his foot in Turkey. However, it did not stop him finishing eighth and sixth in the two races at the Spanish circuit.

“I am really, really happy, to be honest, because I didn’t expect a good result like that,” he said. “It’s one of those things you debate with yourself as to whether you can ride or not, but as soon as you get on the bike and you get a bit of confidence back, it helps you to feel comfortable.”

“I felt exhausted at the end and my foot was sore, but it was a good day all in all.”

Striker completes Maidstone move

MAIDSTONE United have signed striker Jack Harris from Tunbridge Wells.

The 19-year-old, who scored 51 goals in 112 games, was a star performer for the Southern Counties East Football League side on their run to the FA Vase final last season.

The Stones have also released 32-year-old midfielder Danny Lye.

Davis to take on DeGale at Glow

JAMES DeGale’s opponent for his fight at Glow next month has been announced.

The Olympic gold-medallist will take on Dyah Davis at the Bluewater complex on November 16 in his third fight at the venue.

Tickets are £40 and available via 01925 755 222 or www.ticketmaster.co.uk.

No joy for Paffett in final DTM race

IT was an uneventful ending to the season for Bromley’s Gary Paffett in the German touring car series DTM at Hockenheim.

The 32-year-old suffered with a lack of speed throughout, finishing ninth, with tyre pressure and his passenger door flying open causing him problems.

He ends the season in sixth place.

Lack ends short spell with Dynamos

INVICTA Dynamos have lost the services of new signing Alan Lack.

Lack has only played 10 games for the Gillingham-based club this season after arriving in the summer.

Mos coach Kevin Parrish said:

“After relocating he has found it difficult to find a new job and ultimately he has decided that he now wants to return home.”

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